

BAY AREA REPORTER

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Hongisto Mauls PD Attorney on Sex Theater Changes

While Gay Pol Argues That Live Acts Equal Prostitution

Gay Theaters Could Be Affected

by George Mendenhall

Admissions should have been charged to the 15 people who showed up at last week's hearing before the Board of Supervisors' hearing on proposed changes in the city's Adult Theater police code. Supervisor Richard Hongisto, a member of the Public Protection committee, entertained and demonstrated obvious glee in his challenge to Police Legal Affairs Attorney Lawrence Wilson. When it was all over, the measure was postponed for one month — but only after spectators heard some revelations about local sex law enforcement.

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PD attorney Law Wilson explains prostitution to supervisors on proposed PD legislation on live sex show touching. (Photo: Rink)

Lesbian Educator Gets Commissionership

by Paul Lorch

Community College administrator Dr. Juanita Owens was sworn in Tuesday as the latest Feinstein appointment on the Commission on the Status of Women.

Owens said she was touched and honored by the selection. Tellingly, she summed it up, "I'm honored as a minority person and as a Lesbian woman in San Francisco."

Owens, 37, holds an EdD from the University of San Francisco, from which she also has an MA in education. She has been with the SF Community College for ten years; her current position is Asst. Director at the Skills Center in the Hunters Point-Bayview district. Owens has been an administrator for the district for three years, and she last broke into the news when after being recommended for the promotion was pulled from the eligibility list. At the time her Lesbianism became part of the issue — both pro and con.

She lives in the Excelsior with her lover, Sage Bergstrom, also an educator as well as a private therapist. Her specialties as an administrator are curriculum

development and working with teachers. She has rotated among five of the district's outreach centers and has worked in the Asian, Latino, Black, and Gay communities. Her own ethnic background Owens describes as mixed — too mixed to go into in a telephone interview. She lists Native American as the most descriptive.

The Committee on the Status of Women is one of the mayor's 22 commissions and has 11 members. They deal with such subjects as women and employment, politics, housing. They also deal with rape, domestic violence, child care, sexual harassment. They deal with proposed and pending local legisla-



Dr. Juanita Owens, new Commissioner. (Photo: Rink)

(Continued on page 3)

Wolfred Voted College Board President

Dr. Tim Wolfred has been elected to the presidency of the Board of Trustees of the SF Community College.

At Tuesday night's Board meeting, Wolfred was chosen by his six colleagues to lead the Board for the year 1984.

Wolfred succeeds Alan Wong, who was the top vote-getter in 1983. In an election year the top vote-getter is generally chosen as president. After a year or sometimes two, the presidency is passed around.

Wolfred was first elected to the College Board in November 1980. He will run for re-election in November 1984.

The psychologist, who also serves as an Operation Concern therapist, told the *Bay Area Reporter* that a major priority



(Photo: Rink)

for him remains educational services to the Gay community. Wolfred was instrumental in getting the Castro/Ventura center started. This program, which operates at Everett Middle School at 450 Church Street, begins its Spring semester this week. ■



(Photo: R. Pruzan)

Mark Sieffker, manager of the North Hollywood bar called Job Site, learned this week that CBS-TV in Los Angeles has named the U.S. Marine Corps "Turkey of the Year." Sieffker (above left) received national attention over the Christmas holidays when he told the media that the Marines had refused to pick up 200 toys for tots that he had collected in his bar. The Marines had claimed that entering the bar would be bad for its image.

Actually, we just wanted an excuse to run Mark's photo, which we just discovered in our files.

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'Wall Street Journal' Says Gay Political Force May Be '84's Main One

by Paul Lorch

In USA folk myth it is said that being mentioned in *TIME Magazine* is making it in America. That's only the beginning. Making it in the *WSJ* (the fat-cat *Wall Street Journal*) means one is not only here — but here to stay. Once again Gays have found major space in the latter.

The article was part of the *WSJ*'s "Politics '84" coverage and was entitled in typical *WSJ* low-key language, "Gays See Election as Chance for Gains; May Be Main Political Force This Year."

The dateline was Washington, DC, and the story was written by *WSJ* staff reporter Ellen Hume. Her theme is that "Gays may be the most important new force in American politics this year."

Hume details the furor that resulted when candidate Senator John Glenn disavowed Gay rights. She notes that both Mondale and Cranston have solicited Gay support (and out of the closet support, at that).

Hume reports that national Gay activists this year are trying to get the nation's 20 million Gays to vote as a bloc. The Democratic Party has been thus far the most receptive. Last year their National Committee elevated Gays to the same "special status as Blacks, women, Hispanics, and Asian-Americans."

Hume makes mention of the Human Rights Campaign Fund, the Gay PAC that in money raised was 55th largest out of 3,371 PAC's nationwide.

The political success of Gays in local politics from San Francisco to Houston is another sign of the growing Gay clout. The article reports there are some 100 openly Gay elected officials around the country, 110 Gay Democratic clubs. Hume says that even some Republicans are seeking Gay support.

The Gay agenda is much broader and more controversial than a decade ago," writes Hume, "when homosexuals said they wanted to be left alone. The platform is now Gays seek legitimacy as a full-fledged minority group born with an in-

nate sexual orientation."

The Gay agenda nationally is a three-part one: a bill extending Title 7 of the Civil Rights Act to include Gays; more federal health money to combat AIDS, and elimination of bans against Gays in immigration and the US military.

Others carry the Gay agenda even further, some seeking to win pension and spousal rights for Gay couples. Others that homosexuality be a part of sex education in the schools.

There are those who say not all the news is good news, though. The Gay agenda could be a bombshell say some political whiz kids.

"The fact that Gays are behaving like an ethnic group doesn't mean that the rest of the public will accept them as one. The public doesn't want to discriminate against homosexuals, but it doesn't want to have to deal with them on a personal basis, either," says William Schneider of the American Enterprise Institute.

Some conservative groups already are capitalizing on the backlash against Gay rights gains. "I believe Gay rights will become the Democrats' Achilles' heel," says Gary Jarmain, chairman of the Christian Voice Moral Government Fund, a PAC dedicated to opposing politicians who support Gay rights.

Still, Gays are much, more visibly active in American politics than ever before. "What we have here is a classic example of how the American system works," says Ann Lewis, political director of the Democratic Party. "They're working to achieve goals through the political process. They are supporting victorious candidates and, in response, they are receiving support for their goals."

Hume makes one observation that has startled Gay progressives. "Gays aren't necessarily Democratic or liberal, as the stereotype might suggest. As many don't have children, they can be very conservative on such economic issues as aid to education."

Erik McGrath, director of Municipal Elections Committee of Los Angeles (MECLA) reports, "Even though the Democrats have been the most responsive to Gay measures, most of the people who have contributed to us consider themselves Republicans. They're well-to-do businessmen and women, who've had careers their whole lives. They don't have the responsibility to support a family, so they're more affluent."

Hume concludes with Gays and their relations with Ronald Reagan and organized labor. She writes, "In the past, even President Reagan has shown some sympathy for Gay rights. Gays note that in 1978 Mr. Reagan spoke out strongly against a California initiative that would have barred homosexuals from teaching in schools. 'We're even in the upper echelons of the Reagan administration,' says Vic Basile, president of the Gay National Human Rights Campaign lobbying group. 'What we don't have is openly Gay people in those areas.'

"Perhaps the most marked symbol of the nation's changed attitude about Gays is the AFL-CIO, which for years has been a hotbed of anti-Gay sentiment. At its national convention in Miami last October, the labor federation approved by voice vote a resolution backing the national Gay civil rights bill."

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New Castro Manager:

'Mrs. Fields Does Not Discriminate'

Meanwhile, 2nd Ex-Employee Files Suit

by George Mendenhall

"This charge of discrimination against Gay people is coming down on all the stores and it is a blatant lie. Gayness is not a factor in working for Mrs. Fields. Our regional director in New York is openly Gay and we have openly Gay managers in Los Angeles. I am Gay myself and believe me, if there was any discrimination, I would hear about it."



Cookie stop on Castro — do they or don't they discriminate against Gay employees? (Photo: Rink)

Wayne Goff, manager of the Castro branch of Mrs. Fields Cookies, was speaking out this week as he emphatically denied charges by a former Fields manager, Timothy Johnson, who claimed he was fired because he is Gay. Johnson has filed a lawsuit against the company through the law firm of Carol Ruth Silver/Arthur Siegel.

The Castro manager has worked with Fields for one year and is very high on the company's policies. He pleads, "I have worked for other corporations, but Mrs. Fields more than any other wants everyone to be themselves. They stress that and do not want employees to just be clones. Local stores join the local business associations and participate in community activities. For example, we give cookies to Castro area Gay events and causes."

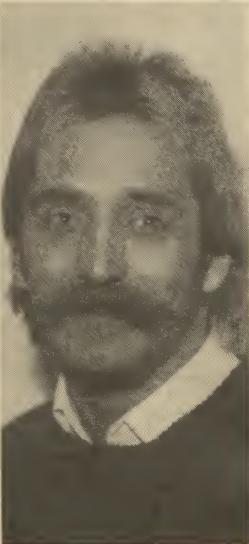
There are currently 200 corporate stores with 15 in San Francisco. An additional 100 stores are due to open soon nationally with 4 additional stores in the city. Goff states that whether a person is Gay or not will not be a factor in hiring for the new stores: "They don't care who you are, as long as you are a worker."

Why was Regional Manager Stan Slap named as the culprit who dismissed three Gay managers in San Francisco in mid-1983? Goff was not employed by Mrs. Fields then but speculates, "People who loaf are dismissed while energetic, outgoing people who want to work are not. Gay people are welcomed in all of the stores and probably are 25% of the local employees."

While Johnson's suit against Mrs. Fields Cookies awaits a court date, another former manager has filed a lawsuit against the corporation. Michael Wolonsky, now a Guerneville resident, documents that he received written commendations and financial bonuses until early 1983 when Slap became Regional Manager. After that time he claims he was intimidated and

harassed by Slap's district manager, Lisa Schneider. He was dismissed in April, 1983, when he claims "all Gay people of any position were either fired, quit, or demoted in San Francisco." Johnson allegedly said at the time that Slap had told him to get rid of Wolonsky with the comment, "I want that fuckin' faggot out of here."

Debbi Fields continues to support Slap, who could not be reached for comment. She does not believe the accusations. Fields recently told this newspaper, "I hope your readers will hold judgment until both sides of the story have been told, particularly until the claims of Mr. Johnson have been tested in court. His claims are false, and we will prove that in court. We have never tried to reduce the number of Gay employees within our company, or to limit their opportunities for advancement."



Michael Wolonsky, ex-cookie employee, says he too has filed suit for job discrimination.

Big Ad for AB-1 Scrapped

LA/SF Strategy Conflict, Gay Rights Bill Waits in the Wings

by George Mendenhall

A half-page advertisement in the *Sacramento Bee* urging State Senators to support a Gay job rights bill in the Senate has been canceled. Gerry Parker, who raised the \$3,000 to pay for the ad, states that a strategy conflict between San Francisco and Los Angeles area Gay activists caused the cancellation.

The legislation, AB-1, will be called to the Senate floor for a vote when its sponsor, Assemblyman Art Agnos, believes he has enough votes. When that will happen remains a mystery. The bill passed the Assembly in 1983 with 41 votes, the exact number needed. Those tallying the votes now think they have the exact number (21) to pass AB-1 through the Senate. An Agnos aide, Tim Johnson, believes an additional two votes may be obtained when the Legislative Council releases its analysis of the legislation. He said Agnos does not expect any of the 21 to "take a walk" when the vote is called.

The canceled advertisement was typeset and ready to run with the money in the bank when Parker, the former president of SF Stonewall Democrats, announced that the ad would not run because an LA-based Coalition for AB-1 thought the ad might be counterproductive. The LA theory was that when the ad, scheduled to run just before the Senate vote, appeared, it would set off religious and political conservatives who might have flooded senators with "Vote No" phone calls.

Parker eventually agreed to the LA objections and suggested an alternative plan — an advertisement to be placed in the *Bee* just after the Senate approval, urging the governor to sign the bill into law. However, this idea was also shot down when Gay Republican political clubs in San Francisco, Los Angeles, and San Diego opposed it. There has been speculation that the governor would quietly allow the bill to become law without his signature. The Gay GOP activists reasoned that an ad might un-



Gerry Parker ends up with cash and no AB-1 ad for the Sacramento Bee. (Photo: Rink)

necessarily bring attention to the issue, bringing increased lobbying to the governor urging a veto of the legislation.

Refunds will be sent out this week from a special bank account set aside by Parker and activist Hank Wilson. Parker says only \$100 has been expended from the \$3,000 for typesetting expenses.

STATE ORGANIZATION

Parker now reflects on how the ad idea began: A group of 15 Gay activists met in Agnos' San Francisco office just before Christmas and agreed that the ad would be a good idea. However, he claims, those who said they would help with the idea did not and he decided, on his own, to raise \$6,000 for a full-page ad. He raised \$3,000 quickly over the Christmas holidays and decided to go for a half-page ad. The urgency of the funding was evident because the speculation was that the Agnos bill could be voted upon as early as January 6.

The overall problem, Parker contends, is that there is no statewide Gay political organization that can bring together the diverse people and strategies of individuals and geographical areas. As it currently exists, North/South communication involves telephone conversations between "leaders." They attempt to determine what action to take and whether the persons they are talking to represent a

consensus. During the effort to pass a private, consensual sex bill in the 1970's, there were brief but short-lived statewide Gay organizations. Interest in them died when the Gay rights bill became law.

A second problem was that Agnos evidently did not want to become involved in differences about the advertisement even though the idea originated, without objection, at a meeting in his office. Parker said he learned recently that Agnos privately did not think the ad was a good idea. The assemblyman, it appears, wanted to avoid be-

ing public about the issue while Gay politicians in different parts of the state were disagreeing with each other.

Parker is somewhat discouraged over his experience with the canceled ad but says he has moved on to other projects. He concludes, "We made an honest effort to do what we thought was right for the Lesbian/Gay community. Unfortunately, obstacles arose over political strategy. We hope that our recognition of Southern California's reservations on the ad does not reflect negatively on our local intentions." ■

Lesbian Educator Gets Commissionership

(Continued from page 1)



Juanita Owens (L) gets the congratulations from Supervisor Willie Kennedy (r.) in Mayor's office swearing in ceremony. Mayor Feinstein reminded those assembled that Kennedy was up for re-election and had her total support. (Photo: Rink)

tion, as well as issues like the ERA. Owens says they are considered "one of the hardest working commissions." They meet once a month, but also serve on sub-committees. The term is three years, and Owens replaces Lesbian attorney Donna Hitchens, who recently resigned.

Owens is viewed by many as one of the most respected Lesbians in the San Francisco Gay community. She is a native of the city and she had her parents at her swearing in and introduced them to her friends and well-wishers.

She is a member of both Harvey and Toklas Demos and has served on the Steering Committee of GLESC, the Gay activist group made up of Community College administrators, faculty, and staff. This group

along with Board member Tim Wolfred has been instrumental in forming the latest outreach to minority communities, the Castro/Ventura Center (the Gay college) which holds classes at Everett Junior High on Church Street. ■

P. Lorch

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Molinari Knocks Britt, Rent Control at CRIR

Predicts Mayoral Veto that will hold

by Bruce Pettit

Supervisor John Molinari told Concerned Republicans for Individual Rights Monday night that his board colleague Harry Britt will not be content with his latest apparent success at tighter residential rent controls in San Francisco.

Britt, insisted Molinari, "would put us on the road to total property control. Analyzing that Britt accepted a 14% rent-hike ceiling on vacant apartments because only that was now politically feasible, Molinari added: "Soon he will want 10%, then 8, then 4, and then he will want nothing."

Molinari was one of three Supervisors — joining Louis Renne and Bill Maher — who opposed the Britt amendment to the city's Rent Stabilization Ordinance when it was first heard January 9. Richard Hontisto was excused from voting because he owns more than four units of rental property.

Supervisor Quentin Kopp joined the city by proposing the 14% cap (Britt was asking 10%). Kopp philosophically opposed all rent control but thought it "illogical" to have controls on occupied units and no controls on vacant units. Molinari termed the Kopp move "a complete and total surprise" which enabled Britt to win 7-3.

"A KOPPIST TO SWITCH"

Molinari predicted that Mayor Feinstein will veto the measure. He suggested that CRIR members communicate to her their desire that she remain steadfast to her past pledges to do so.

"If she vetoes, the matter rests on whether the three of us (Molinari, Maher and Renne) stick," Molinari said, alluding to the eight-vote rule to override a Mayor. "I am convinced they will not change. I tell you, I will not change. It would be a Koppism to switch on the override."

Both Molinari and his remarks were warmly applauded by the Gay GOP group, as Molinari made his first appearance there after switching his party registration from Republican to Democrat last year. CRIR laughed with him when he quipped, "I came out of the closet." Despite his deserting their party, Molinari characterized CRIR as "an important and leveling influence in San Francisco's Gay community."

Molinari called vacancy control "a bad piece of legislation. It is bad for tenants because landlords will not take care of their property."

The Supervisor said it passed because middle-class tenants joined the fight for vacancy control for the first time. "I think they were hoodwinked and bamboozled." He said it would not have passed if 1984 were not a supervisorial election year, and he noted that his vote has brought him some tenant-activist threats to defeat him. Twelve-year veteran Molinari told CRIR, "If one vote is the measure of an individual, then let it fall on this one. It is wrong. To enact it is only pandering to a small special interest group in our city."

THE DEUKMEJIAN MARGIN

Don Bowden, executive director of San Francisco's Republican Party and a charter CRIR member, said that CRIR is "the organization that usually gets the job done" in the grassroots work of the city's Republican polities. Gov. George Deukmejian was narrowly elected in 1982 with an absentee ballot edge over his Democratic opponent, and Bowden said the club's absentee-ballot work was a major factor.

Bowden urged CRIR to plan early for efforts to re-elect President Reagan and State Senator Milton Marks. He said the national Republican party has set a 1984 goal of 10,000 new GOP voters in San Francisco. If the goal is reached — and if the GOP can canvass in advance to identify Democrats who will vote Republican — Regan's share of the city's November vote can be increased by 10 to



Republican Party's Don Bowden (l.) addresses CRIR membership at January meeting. Next Supervisor John Molinari blasted Harry Britt and his rent control measure. (Photo: Rink)

15% over his 1980 slice of 32%. Bowden's remarks also suggested that he considers the challenge of Democrat Lia Belli to Republican Marks as serious.

John Abney, CRIR political activities co-chair, said the club "must make sure people know there are Gays out there who like Ronald Reagan and approve of his policies."

HARDMAN BLASTS AGNOS

Paul Hardman, the club's new legislative affairs co-chair, chided Democratic Assemblyman Art Agnos for using AB-1 for political purposes. Hardman insisted that Agnos has the State Senate votes necessary to pass AB-1, the bill that would guarantee employment protections for Gays. "Agnos doesn't want

to get AB-1 passed," said Hardman. "He uses it only to get re-elected" in San Francisco.

Hardman said he has persuaded a San Francisco Supervisor to introduce an ordinance that will require long-standing city contracts with private agencies to be retroactively revised for nondiscrimination toward Gays, women, the elderly, and the disabled. ■

Twin Peaks Murder Fugitive Nabbed in Nashville

by George Mendenhall

Timothy Reeder, suspect in the November 23 slaying of a Gay Twin Peaks psychiatrist, has been apprehended in Nashville, Tennessee. *Bay Area Reporter* cooperated in the nationwide search for Reeder. The 23-year-old surrendered quietly as he placed a bag of groceries in a car at an H.G. Hills supermarket. Reeder had been working as a bag packer. He was evidently unaware that there was a national police alert out for his arrest.



Dr. Thomas Laskey, Twin Peaks murder victim.

Local Gay activists will later be monitoring the Reeder trial closely to determine if the "homosexual panic" defense will be used either by the Public Defender's office or a private attorney. In this defense, attorneys for the defendant claim that the attacker reacted erratically because of a "diminished mental capacity" because of the shock when sexually approached. Many defense attorneys have used this line of reasoning in California trials in the past two years — but rarely with any success. Usually the defending young men in such cases are street-wise and not homosexually inexperienced.

Reeder has been extradited to California and awaits a preliminary hearing. He allegedly strangled Napa psychiatrist Thomas Laskey, 42, to death in



Timothy Reeder, Twin Peaks murder suspect was arrested in Nashville.

the victim's Twin Peaks apartment. Laskey was a quiet person, not part of the broader Gay community. It was known that he had liked to pick up younger men in public places. A year before the murder, Laskey had been severely beaten by two young men he had taken home. They were never apprehended.

The murder suspect allegedly killed the fully-clothed victim, taking his wallet and car. He used his credit cards and was later questioned by police on his way to Reno when the stolen auto slid off the highway in a blizzard. Later, when the officers learned that Reeder was wanted and the car was stolen, San Francisco officers were notified. Reeder deserted the car in Reno.

Local police homicide inspectors Jeff Brosch and Ed Erdelatz are credited with tracking down Reeder's home city, Nashville. The suspect had a police record there, including eight incidents of resisting arrest. The officers also gave out a national alert and placed a photo in this newspaper, hopeful that Reeder had a local friend who could pass on additional information. Reeder, however, was strictly a loner. He met Laskey and took advantage of the situation to obtain cash and the auto. ■

Britt to Address Milkers

Supervisor Harry Britt will report to the Harvey Milk Lesbian and Gay Democratic Club on the success of the rent control ordinance that he recently steered through the Board of Supervisors at their meeting on Tuesday evening, January 24, 7:30 p.m., at the Women's Building, 3543 18th Street.

The Milk Club will also be looking ahead to the midsummer Democratic convention. Nancy Pelosi, chair of the convention Host Committee and former chairperson of the state Democratic Party, will provide an overview and update on planned convention activities. ■

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Jackson Reaffirms Support for Gays

While Gays Have Mixed Reactions

by Dion B. Sanders

In the wake of several defections from the presidential campaign of Ohio Senator John Glenn over his opposition to federal Gay Rights legislation, the Rev. Jesse Jackson has reiterated his announcement last September welcoming Gays into his "Rainbow Coalition."

In a December 21 press conference during a campaign stop in Washington, Jackson again threw his support behind a bill now in Congress that would extend the provisions of the 1964 Civil Rights Act to include legal protections for Gays, calling it "a constitutional issue."

In recent weeks, several key supporters of Senator Glenn quit his campaign over Glenn's steadfast opposition to the federal Gay Rights bill, including his New York State campaign chairman, State Senator Manfred Ohrenstein (D-Manhattan), San Francisco Supervisor Richard Hongisto, and S.F. District Attorney Arlo Smith.

On the other hand, California State Assemblyman Richard Katz (D-Los Angeles), a longtime supporter of Gay Rights, refused to step down from the Glenn campaign, saying that he "always had problems with single-issue campaigns."

In an interview with *The Washington Blade*, Katz also based his refusal to desert Glenn on the decision of Senator Paul Tsongas (D-Massachusetts), chief Senate sponsor of the bill, to stick with Glenn.

Tsongas, who was recently hospitalized with a serious ill-

continued.

In Sunday, January 15th's nationally-television debate of the eight Democratic presidential candidates in New Hampshire, Jackson employed this same tactic in response to a question from a woman in the audience for his position on abortion — adding, however, that there is a need for greater sex education aimed at preventing unwanted pregnancy, thus avoiding abortions.

Jackson had come under fire from Gay activists for not speaking out on Gay issues prior to his HRCF appearance and from abortion-rights advocates for his longstanding opposition to abortion on religious grounds.

In interviews with *The Washington Blade*, D.C. Gay politicians were divided in their opinions of Jackson, with Gil Gerald, executive director of the National Coalition of Black Gays, expressing hope that Jackson will meet with Gays to discuss strategies for Gay involvement in the Jackson campaign.

At the same time, however, Gerald told the *Blade* that he is concerned that because Jackson is a minister, he may view religion and Gays as "mutually exclusive" of each other. Nevertheless, the Jackson campaign had been "very cooperative" and other Gay supporters of the candidate agree, Gerald added.

Gerald is running for a delegate seat at next July's Democratic National Convention in San Francisco as a Jackson delegate.

On the other hand, Phillip Pannell, a Black Gay member of the D.C. Commission for Human Rights, criticized Jackson's appointment of Donna Brazile as the campaign's director of constituent mobilization.

Brazile, a top official of the Martin Luther King Memorial March on Washington last August, was accused by Pannell of supporting Rep. Walter Fauntroy (D-D.C.) in his opposition to allowing Black Lesbian feminist Audre Lorde to speak at the rally celebrating the 20th anniversary of Dr. King's March.

"There is a Bible that some of us live under — morals, the Koran, that others live under," Jackson told reporters. "But we must have enough judgment to know that which is essentially religious and that which is essentially legal."

Candidate Jesse Jackson gets enlightened on Gay platform.

ness, announced last week that he would not seek re-election.

Jackson, an ordained Baptist minister and former president of Operation PUSH, put distance between himself and other religious leaders — many of them violently anti-Gay — in a speech before the annual dinner of the Human Rights Campaign Fund in New York last September.

"There is a Bible that some of us live under — morals, the Koran, that others live under," Jackson told reporters. "But we must have enough judgment to know that which is essentially religious and that which is essentially legal."

"And the status of people who are Gay, are women, are Black, are Latino, is essentially a constitutional question," he

Search for New Logo

The SF AIDS Foundation is now accepting bids from local artists to produce a new logo for the Foundation. Interested persons should submit examples of their art work (preferably examples of logo concepts submitted

previously to other agencies) and an estimate of fees to develop camera-ready art for a total corporate image, directly to the SF AIDS Foundation, 54 10th St., by Friday, January 27. For information call Holly Smith at the SF AIDS Foundation, 864-4376.

Reward for White Runs into Flak

Search and Protests Still On in Southern California

by George Mendenhall

A conservative group of young, straight professionals in Orange County are offering \$10,000 to the person who tells them where Dan White is living. Chief Deputy Attorney General Nelson Kempsey has called the group, The Citizens Protection Association, "grotesque" and believes the offer violates California's right-to-privacy law.

The Orange County group wants to find Dan White because they believe he is potentially dangerous and that the neighbors near White's residence should be warned about his presence. If they do not receive a tip from someone soon, they will file a suit against the state Department of Corrections demanding that it tell them where White is living. Kempsey said that under current state law the Attorney General's office is charged with protecting White's privacy.

Over 100 people belong to the Orange County group which was organized by Dr. Daniel Sigler (who describes himself as a "conservative right-wing businessman"), attorney Jeff Walsworth, and Ronald Strunk, a contractor. They are pledged to keep White's whereabouts confidential after the information is verified and the neighbors notified. One person put up the \$10,000, but the name of the donor is not being made public.



Dan White rumored to be settling down, possibly in Santa Monica.

In a local *San Francisco Examiner* story about the group, *Bay Area Reporter* editor Paul Lorch said, "I think that the information will surface naturally, automatically. Eventually someone will alert the public and say, 'Hey, this guy is living in my apartment building.' I can't imagine why a right-wing conservative group would do this."

Lorch added that this news-

paper would publish news of White's location and his address if it had it, because "the enormity of his crime outstrips his right to privacy."

LA DEMONSTRATIONS

Two hundred Lesbians and Gay men marched in Hollywood last Thursday night to protest the release of murderer Dan White in Los Angeles. They were led by Lillene Fifield, chairwoman of the Dan White Out of LA Committee; longtime activist Morris Kight; and the founder of Metropolitan Community Church, Rev. Troy Perry. At the Hollywood police station, speeches were heard while police officers stood silently by as observers.

Saturday afternoon produced a second rally — on the steps of LA City Hall. One of the speakers, LA school board member Jackie Goldberg, told the assembled 300 the release of White in that county was "intentional, an attempt to chill the growing political power of Gay people in this city." Fifield added, "We are not a vigilante committee. We are only interested in removing White from Los Angeles."

Memorial Service

Congregation Ahavat Shalom will be holding memorial services for Glenn S. Friedman at Sinai Memorial Chapel, Divisadero at Geary, on Sunday, January 22, at 5 p.m. For further information, contact the Congregation at 621-1020.

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Copy C For employee's record This information is being furnished to the Internal Revenue Service			

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VIEWPOINT

LETTERS

The Ethics and Ethos of the Dan White Issue

The question two weeks ago on the ethical obligation to keep Dan White's whereabouts secret continued to bounce around in the news as January day followed bleak January day.

Last week's media question was what do you think about a group of Orange county far-righters offering a \$10,000 reward to discover his whereabouts so they could oust him from their environs. They hired an attorney who made a press conference out of the startling turn of events. My first response was that the news was mind-boggling.

Only a few days before we joked around the office of starting up a "Find Dan White Contest" in the newspaper with \$25 to \$50 for the best clues. A second suggestion — should we know the location — to plant clues all over the paper with a campy prize for whoever solved the puzzle. A good laugh, but little did we realize someone would be turning it into a Las Vegas sweepstakes.

Up until the Orange-county caper, it was only the Gay community that had been grilled on what they were planning to do about White — as if we alone had a stake in the matter.

My response to media polls was that I expected no peace for Dan White and the paper was prepared not to give him any. Yes, we would publish his address, and his next address, and the address after that. The reasoning was that the enormity of his crime and his subsequent choices transcended any rights to revert to anonymity. I told the *S.F. Chronicle* that Dan White had forfeited his right to privacy. He was a public person. He killed two public persons. His crime was a public act and it changed things in the body politic. His subsequent life would also be public property.

The Orange-county caper — when I began to toss it around in my head — was but a melodramatic validation of that public versus private theory. Coming from across the political spectrum, this want-to-know gesture showed that people of all stripes wanted to know White's whereabouts. And their interest was no different than mine, and little less different than the bloke who peddles flags and buttons at parades or the pushcart with hot dogs and sticks circled with bagel rings. Across the street from his hideout would be a perfect place to set up their stands. Are they any different than a Barbara Walters in search of an exclusive, heart-wrenching interview?

Hence it is no longer Dan White *in se*; it emerges this week as it has been all along, the *Dan White Issue*.

Dan White's crime is a far cry from the bedroom murder of the Cambridge diet doctor by his jilted paramour, Jean Harris. When she has finished her sentence, I can easily see her slipping away into a silent privacy for her remaining years.

The *White Issue* is one for political science textbooks, or theories on democracy in action. He is to Milk and Moscone as Cassius and Brutus were to Julius Caesar. And his crime hasn't been heard of in the West since the Renaissance. It was a commonplace in the primitive Middle Ages, in Rome, in Greek legend. His action was the very antithesis of the democratic process, for he demonstrated successfully that assassination is the ultimate political strategy.

He is not even in the same class as John Wilkes Booth, or Lee Harvey Oswald, or Sirhan Sirhan. They were small fry . . . little Davids leveling imagined Goliaths.

The only indication we have of or from White is that he approved of his act. He has never disavowed it. He has never sought to make amends. On the contrary, he has sired another child in captivity. And his wife chose to conceive the poisonous semen and carry the rosemary's baby to term. Has not mother nature herself passed a horrible judgment — or as one White Watcher put it, "the down payment" on what was to come. White has chosen not like some Albert Schweitzer to retreat to the heart of Africa and make his life

(Continued on next page)

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LETTERS

Sister's Swan Song

★ Sister CPR is moving away, taking this city and shoving it. I was hoping the days of "fuck you San Francisco — I'm taking my baseball and going home" were over. I think the end of his guest column was the heart of the entire matter: "... rolling some heads to get this cesspool of a town together . . ."

Has it ever been a secret to anyone what San Francisco is? People all over the world know about our city! Why do people vacation here? Is it the universities, the highrise office buildings, the promise of the 1984 Democratic convention, the museums, the symphony? No, people come here because it allows them to wallow in the decadence they've always wanted to try. Most other world cities have better museums, symphonies, neighborhoods, and weather. Yet, San Francisco is still at the top of the list of most-desired vacation lands in the entire world. I have met so many people who moved here to use and abuse themselves and the people around them that I don't have enough fingers and toes to count them all.



I find it curious that Sister CPR wants to trash the whole city for his own failure. Anyone with any bit of sense knows that New Year's Eve parties at expensive places are attended by people trying to raise their class. They prance, they preen, they pretend to party. But they're really there to show up each other. And they're there to be seen — to be accepted. These kinds of "elite" parties are no different here or anywhere else; people with small egos go to enlarge them.

I know several hundred Gaypeople in San Francisco, but I don't know any one of them who went to the New Year's Eve party Sister CPR mentioned. And Sister CPR was so hurt at not getting free tickets that he went home and cried.

Come on, Paul! That guest column wasn't entertaining. It wasn't controversial or even lewd. It wasn't deserving of B.A.R. Do us a favor and send us the thoughts of Strange de Jim, Quentin Kopp, Boom Boom, Jello Biafra, Miss Leading (Tipi), or another more enlightened entertainer. Give us better trash! We faithful readers want more for our money.

David Kaye
San Francisco

ED. NOTE: What money? Sister CPR's effort was submitted, it was free, he wanted it expressed.

I had no literary merit, it wasn't particularly interesting. Its value, I felt, was in the heads I gave it. Its confessional nature — in its own kind of corny lingo — that a dream had failed, was its merit. Not surprisingly, to the writer, it was the city that failed. The reader, I felt, would quickly catch on that it was the writer who had failed.

I don't think the City needs defending. But Sister CPR's fellow dreamers are legion. If it awakes but one sleeping beauty then it was worth it.

P. Lorch

From the Cloister

★ I was moved by Dutch Garcia's autobiographical "The End of the Affair." However, contrary to the misleading headline, "Sister CPR . . . Kicks the Cloister," relations between Sister CPR and the Sisters of Perpetual Indulgence are excellent. In fact, we hope that Sister will continue as a missionary in New York.

Sr. CPR has served honorably as a nun for two years, including one term as Mistress of Ceremonies — that is. Also Chairman of the Board of Directors of the Sisters of Perpetual Indulgence, Inc. Her enthusiasm has been unflagging. We wish Sr. CPR good luck and god-speed.

We love you, Sis, and we'll miss you.

Fr. Florence Nightmare, RN
Privy Councilor
Sisters of Perpetual Indulgence
San Francisco

So Long CPR

★ I feel heartbroken to learn that Sister CPR is disenchanted with San Francisco and is leaving. It is sad to think that his life in San Francisco was so shallow that he only could find happiness in discos, drugs and opening up his hole.

I find someone who has to dress up in a nun's dress for happiness somewhat bizarre. Sister CPR, maybe San Francisco would like to show you out. I personally love San Francisco, and am tired of people knocking it. Every place is not for everyone, just because one place is not for you, don't knock it; just leave.

Is there anyone else out there that likes San Francisco? Let's hear it for the city by the bay.

Jerald Moore
San Francisco

Dislikes Coverage

★ An Open Letter to TV News Directors:

I am writing to protest the short shrift your stations gave to the story of local January 6 demonstrations against the release of convicted murderer Dan White. The city's anger over White's cheating justice deserves

more time and examination than a football game, even if it is for a national championship.

Even though the demonstration story may have had the "lead" position, little detail was given on any of the reports, except that White had been released and there had been a demonstration. Some stations did slightly better than others, but no one station did an adequate job.

Your pictures did not tell the story nor did your words. I heard no estimate of the size of the march in downtown San Francisco and saw no shot indicating how large that crowd grew as it proceeded through the financial district. I heard no mention of the unusual route, of how people joined in for one or two blocks and dropped out, of the marchers' diversity, of applauding or astonished onlookers on the sidewalks, in vehicles, in buildings along the way. There were no interviews with bystanders or marchers, no quotes from any of the Union Square speakers, at least one of whom was particularly witty and pointedly direct about the issues involved.

The same criticism applies to coverage of the evening rally. I realize television cannot compete with newspapers when it comes to providing details about a particular event or exploring background issues, but you all seem to think that the mere mention of this demonstration (or for that matter, any gathering involving the gay community) constitutes coverage.

What makes me angry is that instead of examining the feelings of a broad cross-section of the community gathered for the specific purpose of speaking out on one of the most significant events in this city in this decade, you chose to spend much more time on promoting and exploiting "the big game." On one station, everyone from shopgirls in Macy's to cab drivers in Washington, D.C. (my god, what a terrific way to spend your programming dollars) were interviewed about the game.

But, for your stations, which are licensed to serve this community and charged with addressing local issues, to do such an insufficient job of covering this issue, especially when the football features could appear in Saturday's or Sunday's news, is irresponsible.

Timothy D. Perkins
San Francisco

Bare Chest Contest

★ I am writing to you because of your unprecedented reputation for fairness. The other night I had the pleasure of watching some of San Francisco's finest men participate in the "Bare Chest Contest." It was an exciting evening and fun was had by all. The final judging of the best chest for February was such a "sham." When will this type of favoritism stop in our community. It was so obvious that the winner of that event did not possess all the attributes that the contest supposedly represented, except he was white, blonde and blue-eyed.

I have witnessed this type of unfairness several times in these events. When will it ever stop? The #7 contestant was such a "Hunk." What a body. He was totally overlooked. Sure he was given the complimentary T-shirt, but the roar from the crowd, which is a good indicator clearly stated that this contestant had all the right-stuff.

We as a group entrust our judges to institute and initiate fair play in our competitive events. This was not the case at the Bare Chest Contest. I say to you judges, judge yourselves and your responsibility as a judge a bit closer.

Disappointed Observer
San Francisco

Somebody Else

★ With regard to the letter in B.A.R. last week by "Jack Ragsdale," headed "Clean up Mr. S." I wish to make it clear that that letter in no way refers to my business, Mr. S. Products, or to my senior partner and lover, Alan Selby, also known as Mr. S. Whilst it was obvious to me that the letter referred to somebody else, I am quite upset by the slur on Alan's integrity. I cannot understand by B.A.R. always asks for real names on letters, but it would seem that if you write often enough, this can be waived. Is some sort of double standard in operation?

Peter Jacklin
San Francisco

Jim Ostlund's Mother

★ I am thankful the editor has given me this opportunity to be able to express my love and appreciation to all those good people who have been a support during this time of loss.

I am fully aware that like all of us Jim had faults. We were very close. I also was aware of his gentleness, kindness, generosity, and love for people.

My love for him can never be destroyed; he will always be in my heart.

We cannot walk through this world without making enemies; it is a fact of life. Neither can our enemies do us any harm after we are gone.

If they have such a need to fulfill their vindictiveness, I would think they would find their satisfaction in ways other than walking on the grave of the dead.

God grant them forgiveness; I do. May they find peace.

Jim Ostlund's Mother

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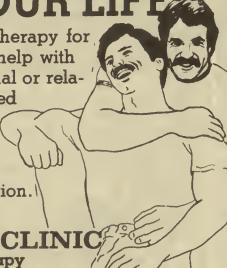
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VIEWPOINT

(Continued from previous page)

a service to humankind. No, as if the only thing that happened was a hiatus of five years, and he will take up where it stopped November 27, 1978.

Life doesn't work like that, and what's in store for the Whites is a life sentence of bitter rice. The crime was public in origin and it will be public in finale.

We owe Dan White nothing . . . least of all his privacy. I know of no ethical system that says it's wrong to watch — or even get a good seat at the morality play.

Paul Lorch

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LETTERS

Fresno Flicks Fertig

★ Dear Sister Boom Boom, SPI:

In response to your comment in the January 5, 1984, B.A.R. paper, "But Never in Fresno."

As a Fresno I am very proud of my town. We have a very active Gay community.

Our community has worked together on many things, such as working on floats for the San Francisco Gay Pride Parade. Fresno has won the 1980 Sweepstakes Award and 1st Place Award in 1981 for Best Float.

We have also supported the National Gay Rodeo. Fresno has had two past Miss National Gay Rodeos and two past Mister National Gay Rodeos. Presently we have Miss National Gay Rodeo '83 and Miss National Top Dollar Winner, Miss Christie Love, and Mr. National Top Dollar Winner '83, Bryan P.

We are a very happy community with many Gay organizations such as GRO, GUS, and MCC.

If you would like to come to Fresno and see our community, I'd like to invite you and other SPI's to come and see our Cinderella Ball. The theme is "Cinderella Goes Bad," a Hooker's Ball, February 4, and our Coronation (A Victorian Garden Party), May 18 and 19.

I'm sure you will find, as many others have found (and come back time and time again), how much fun you can have in Fresno.

R.J. Lewis
Fresno, CA

ing on raises for vacated units. The Board of Supervisors passed these amendments on January 10th. On January 17th they will vote a second time. If they pass again, the mayor still has power to veto the amendments until January 31st. Of course she will be under a lot of evil pressure from landlords and businesses.

So, please call Feinstein's office; tell her you want the amendments to stand. Numbers (potential votes) matter to her. Her number is 558-3456. The supervisors who voted against the amendments are John Molinari (588-2164), Louise Renne (588-5015) and John Maher (588-2407). You might want to call them, or remember to forget their names on election day.

Robert Gluck
for ENOLA GAY, a Faggot Affinity Group
San Francisco



Twinkies for Sale

★ I don't blame the Dan White protesters for being mad. It's been over five years, yet twinkies are still being blatantly sold in every grocery store and on selected street corners. Love,

Strange de Jim
San Francisco

False Tip

★ What makes us so sure that Dan White is down in Los Angeles . . . Because they told us so?

Ha, ha, - Ha, ha . . .

John Di Donna
San Francisco

Prison Time

★ If someone does assassinate Dan White, can we assume that that person will not have to serve more than two and one-half years for the crime?

Tony DeRosa
San Francisco

Pride Thanks

★ I want to thank our Gay community friends, supporters, contributors, and volunteers who helped make Christmas at the Pride Center a joyous and sharing community event. We were able to serve dinner to almost 300 guests and sent out nearly 100 dinners to those who were not able to come to the Pride Center.

The response from our community was overwhelming and reflects the giving spirit. I want to thank and acknowledge those individuals and businesses who made cash and food contributions: 132 Bush, Castro Gardens, Club Dori, Just Desserts, Grubstake, Capri-corn Coffees, Cock-A-Doodle-Doo, Mum's Cookies, Jug's, Polk Gulch, The Stables, Sticky Bun Bakery, Private Collection Florists, The Cake Gallery, Church Street Petal Pushers, Trifles Pastry Shop, Cliff's Variety, Casa Loma, Cafe San Marcos, Ivy's, Civic Center Travelodge, Cala, Safeway, Hot 'n' Chunky, Sutter's Mill, Zuni Cafe, Does Your Mother Know, San Francisco Tavern Guild, Chez Mollet, Castro Station, Midnight Sun, Moby Dick, Women's Inn, Awards by Chris, Obelisk, Masque, The Village, Ramrod, Rawhide, Foghorn, Trax, Washington Square Bar & Grill, Muscle System, Jim Rulon, Worth Young, Rod White, Kenneth Mills, Le Domino, Academy, Watering Hole, Amelia's, and J. Walter Thompson Advertising Agency.

The volunteer response was also tremendous. The Pride Foundation has always operated with volunteers and this Christmas showed our community support. Those who helped cook turkeys, prepare the dinner, greet and serve our guests deserve the highest praises. Without their help we would not exist, so special thanks to Larry Long, Doug Hinkston, David Ward, Veronica Martin, Bob Hawes, Worth Young, Jim O'Loughlin, Tom Yanetta, Michael O'Connor, Bill Mosby, Doug MacDaniel, Ray Carson, Edward Fondeur, Rick Stolley, Yolanda Chanuk, Jacqueline Jacobs, B.J. White, Barbara Daith, Brooke Hazard, Barry Lamont, Mimi Stadley, Ken Kalani, Joe Doyle, Gerry Jantzi, Dick Haas, Hal Fuchs, Don Lammie, Bill Ashley-Dobbins, Jim Murphy, Kathy Murphy, Andy & George Cryar, Vanese Conroy, Ray Kohlman, Jaime Barbary, Michael Colombo, Gordon Ross, David Glassberry, Dike Garrison, Michael Berg, Jim Rulon, Ralph Elias, and Scott Stines.

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George S. Voigt
Volunteer Coordinator

Hongisto Mauls PD Attorney on Sex Theater Changes

(Continued from page 1)

The police and the district attorney's office have been attempting for three months to get their proposal adopted, in response to a federal judge's request that the city tighten up its adult theater codes. The latest version of the proposal omits a section that would have prohibited anyone in such theaters from touching anyone else and adds "live" before the word "entertainment" in order to clarify that 25-cent arcades are not included.

The revised plan, if passed by the full Board, would 1) put a halt to tipping, 2) require a sign be posted to that effect, and 3) require that any room less than 300 square feet be unlocked and so constructed that it be open to



Gay attorney Tom Steel is opposed to SFPD sex dance changes. (Photo: Rink)

view from the exterior at all times. This latter condition would eliminate tiny theaters-within-a-theater where live performers appear onstage.

All the same, live entertainment in Gay-oriented movie houses could be affected, especially if onstage entertainers move into the audience and accept money from patrons.

WHAT IS PROSTITUTION?

Hongisto asked Wilson why changes in the current police code had been proposed. The police attorney answered that they would help the police to halt prostitution in Adult Theaters. Hongisto then began a lengthy questioning of Wilson, insisting that he define "prostitution." Wilson at first declined so the supervisor asked, "We are talking about sexual intercourse?" Wilson explained that he was talking about "illicit acts" and "lewd acts." He did not want to define those so Hongisto accused him of avoiding his question.

The supervisor said that if prostitution involved sexual intercourse, as he used to think of it, the definition would be vaginal sex. Wilson said the definition is now broader — to include acts "that we normally do not think of as sexual intercourse." These could include the finger

of a single finger becomes a criminal act in touching. Amused by his own question, the supervisor said, "You never know when a finger might touch something." Supervisor Willie Kennedy, chair of the committee, smiled and covered her face at that comment.

"The point," Hongisto said, "is that fingers are now against the law. How about a hug, an embrace?" Wilson answered that it all had to do with the intent and that police officers were aware of the latest court rulings about such matters. "The point is," Wilson urged, "that the touching escalates when there is tipping."

Hongisto eased off and allowed Wilson to explain that the police were not concerned about onstage performances that did not involve audience members. The police attorney said that officers were concerned because women entertainers in Live Adult Theaters received little pay and were forced to take money from patrons for sexual activity to enlarge their meager incomes. Wilson claimed the owners of such business have had immunity under current law while the women get arrested.

PUBLIC TESTIMONY

Attorney Thomas Steel, representing some of the af-

fected adult theaters, said the current police code regulating adult theaters is unconstitutional. He emphasized that the ordinance places the burden of proving one's innocence on the accused, requires a license — which is prior restraint — and requires that a licensee spend money, taking the matter to court in order to prove innocence after a negative hearing decision. He said, "We are not talking about sprinklers here. We are talking about a violation of First Amendment rights."

He agreed with Hongisto's belief that the new proposals were too far-reaching in that "anyone could be put out of business if an employee had a casual contact with a patron and accepted a tip." Steel said the police are now claiming that "lewd sex" is prostitution defining what it means.

"What we should be doing," Steel urged, "is put sex behind locked doors and where people cannot see it — so they will not be offended." He said that under California law a third party has to be offended before there can be an arrest. He added that city law should not surrogate state law, which already prohibits prostitution.

Another witness testified that under state law the person touched must be offended and the police proposal violates that. He accused the SFPD of launching a "moral crusade" and explained that current ordinance requires that the police notify various city agencies when it is considering an adult theater license "which is a way to GET certain businesses." Under the proposed changes, he said a person could be arrested for displaying a nude drawing of Jesus Christ on the cross. The bottom line, he concluded, is that "people who go to adult theaters know that they are not going to Sunday church classes."

Crown Prince Arcadia (formerly Jesus Christ Satan) made a lengthy statement calling for increased sexual freedom and liberation. He began by warning the supervisors, "It is against the law to interrupt someone who is testifying." He was followed by Margery Martin, long-time City Hall campaigner against sexual liberation, who explained how pimps mistreat prostitutes and how women performers are degraded in live sex act theaters.

When it was all over, Hongisto said emphatically that he did not like the current regulatory codes and that he would not vote for the changes. Chair Kennedy was noncommittal on the proposal, but said some regulation was necessary. She asked that the City Attorney prepare answers to questions about the possible unconstitutionality of the proposed changes.

Supervisor Doris Ward, the third member of the committee, concluded, "I am opposed to censorship, but some protective legislation is necessary." She questioned the validity of the police expanding into areas, unrestrained, where people's rights were overly restrained, possibly violating constitutional rights. Ward added philosophically, "Money has been exchanging hands over sex for 5,000 years and it will continue." ■

G. Mendenhall

Feminists Host Party for Norman

Feminist community leaders are hosting a cocktail party and reception on February 10 to raise funds for Friends of Pat Norman for Supervisor.

The cocktail party and reception are 6-8 p.m. on Friday, February 10, at 2099 Lake Street. Hors d'oeuvres will be

served, and a no-host bar will be provided. Cost of the event is \$25 per person.

Hosts include a diverse array of feminists, including Human Rights Commissioner Phyllis Lyon, Ruth Hughes, Tracy Gary, Dr. Vernetta P. Caldwell, Roma Guy, and other sup-

porters.

For more information, call 641-8781. ■

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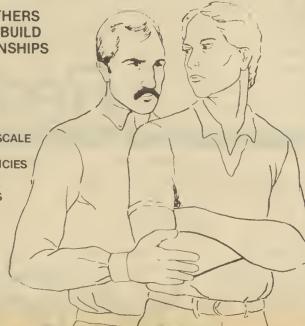
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Viacom Series

Experts to Field Call-In Questions on AIDS

The City's leading medical authorities on AIDS, will gather at Viacom Cablevision on January 27 to participate in a special, live call-in program: "AIDS: A San Francisco Update."

D. Mervyn Silverman, Director of Public Health for San Francisco and guests Dr. Marcus Conant, Founder and Co-Director of Kaposi's Sarcoma Clinic, UCSF; and Dr. Paul Volberding, Chief of Oncology at San Francisco General Hospital, will be available to answer specific questions posed by Viacom viewers. Drs. Volberding and Conant have gained national prominence for their work on AIDS.

The 60-minute program will culminate a week of special informational programming on the disease. "AIDS: A Medical Update," premiering on January 23, will be aired nightly at 8 PM on Viacom Cable 6. Produced by the University of Texas, this five-part series will emphasize up-to-the-minute information. Included will be interviews with AIDS patients and health care professionals, who will examine the social and psychological impact of the disease as well as the most recent breakthroughs in research and treatment.

Said Louise Henry, Vice President of Operations for Viacom Cablevision in San Francisco, "Since our city has the second highest number of AIDS cases in the world, we feel

this program will provide vital information. We hope that it might help eliminate some of the myths and misinformation which surrounds this very serious health problem."

The program dates and times are:

Jan. 23, 8:00 PM "What We Have Learned So Far."

Jan. 24, 8:00 PM "What's New - AIDS Research & Treatment."

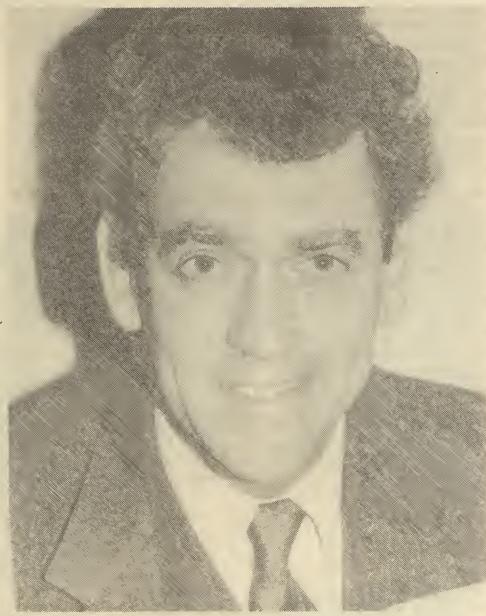
Jan. 25, 8:00 PM "The Psychosocial Side of AIDS."

Jan. 26, 8:00 PM "AIDS Hysteria: Coping with The Unknown."

Jan. 27, 7:30 PM "Viewpoint - City Hall reporter Marshall Kilduff will interview Supervisor Harry Britt."

Jan. 27, 8:00 PM "AIDS: A Crisis in Health Care."

Jan. 27, 8:30 PM "AIDS: A San Francisco Update — call-in program with host Dr. Mervyn Silverman."



Dr. Marcus Conant of UCSF will be on line on Viacom January 27 to answer all and any questions. (Photo: Rink)

Report on National Advertising

Beefcake Pitched to Gay Men, Yet Madison Ave. Avoids Gay Media

Who are those New York advertising firms appealing to when they feature Adonis-like males slipping on sweaters in those BART station Calvin Klein ads? Could it be that when Paco Rabanne's TV commercials feature a hunk getting out of bed in the nude that Gay men might notice and buy that cologne? Do they know what they are doing when they feature a tribute to Oscar Wilde in a Pernod cordial advertisement? Without blatantly admitting it, Madison Avenue firms are beginning to admit that they are reaching for the Gay male's dollar.

The *Los Angeles Times* reported this week that most national advertisers avoid using the Gay press because they fear alienating the straight community if a product is thought of as being Gay: "Gay publishers suspect Madison Avenue has developed a new strategy to reach homosexuals without having to advertise in the homosexual press. These are ads in mainstream publications that feature partially clad, Adonis-like men hawking underwear, jeans, cologne, razor blades, and other products. The appeals reach everyone — but Gays detect a special appeal to them."

"Scores of American businesses are wooing homosexuals — and their money. This has become an increasingly important goal. Gays say they detect subtle hooks — a hairstyle, a style of dress, a cryptic sales pitch — in ads for Calvin Klein fashions, Soloflex exercise equipment, Paco Rabanne cologne, and other products. Advertisers say Gays are exaggerating the perceived trend; 'beefcake,' they say, has simply become an accepted sales method, regardless of the sexual proclivities of the audience."

LA Times reporter Scott Harris claimed that "some of the ap-

peals, however, seem almost obvious." He cites the Paco Rabanne commercial where an artist lounges in his studio loft, presumably naked but for the bedsheet. He is talking to his departed lover on the telephone about a "secret lover" in San Francisco. He says he is going to take the cologne and "rub it on my body when I go to bed tonight. And then I'm going to remember everything about you . . . and last night."

Does the ad make a direct appeal to Gay men? One accountant for Paco Rabanne, Michael Newbrand, admitted, "Everyone has been interpreting it that way. The appeal to Gays is just a kind of happy accident. We certainly recognize that they are part of the market."

The *Times* states the Gay male household is appealing to advertisers because it is more affluent than other groupings. Gay males have larger incomes, have the obvious financial advantage, in most cases, of having no children. It also concluded that Lesbians are less affluent and thus are ignored by major marketers.

GAYS BUY GAY

"Like many ethnic groups

which encourage self-sufficiency through buying," writer Harris emphasized, "from other members of the same ethnic group, Gay merchants have started to preach a 'Buy Gay' ethic. More and more Gays are shopping in Gay-owned shops, dining at Gay-owned restaurants, vacationing at Gay-owned resorts, placing ads in Gay-oriented newspapers, and even saving at Gay-owned financial institutions such as Unity Savings and Loan in West Hollywood and Atlas Savings and Loan in San Francisco."

Arthur Lazere, *Bay Area Reporter* columnist and former Golden Gate Business Association president, told the *Times* about the growing number of Gay business groups in the country: "We weren't welcome in the Kiwanis, the Elks, or any of the traditional groups. So we had to form our own. As long as we are scorned by the majority — and we still are — there's a need for networking."

What about the Chamber of Commerce? The *Times* reported, "In San Francisco, where the homosexual community is highly organized, Gay businesses are now regularly invited to participate in Chamber activities, and several firms with no apparent sexual identity — including Air New Zealand, the Hyatt Regency Hotel, Holiday Inn, Crocker Bank, and First Interstate Bank — have joined the Gay GGBA . . . However, San Francisco is the exception. Major banks and hotels are not, as a rule, active in homosexual business circles in other large cities."

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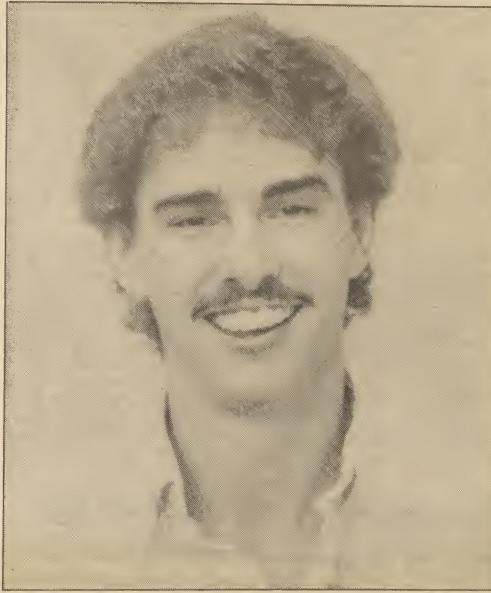
by Allen White

Kirk Baxter is a man with a vision for Gay rights in the state of Arizona. At 23, he is the head of the Arizona Lesbian/Gay Task Force which he helped found one year ago. He is also a member of the Police Liaison Committee which works with Phoenix Police Chief Ruben Ortega.

Baxter shot to national prominence a few weeks back when Maricopa County Supervisor Hawley Atkinson said that San Francisco Gays should be used in place of dogs for experimental use. The Phoenix Gay activist raised such a stir that

Atkinson was being asked to resign from his position by major media outlets, including the largest newspaper in Phoenix. The story made headlines across the country.

Baxter is now working with various other progressive organ-



Phoenix's young Gay whirlwind, Kirk Baxter. (Photo: Rink)



Kirk Baxter, 24, hopes to raise \$50,000 for Phoenix's Gay community. (Photo: Rink)

izations in Phoenix to run Atkinson out of office. The Republican supervisor is up for reelection next November. Kirk Baxter hopes to get another Republican positioned to run against Atkinson. Baxter says that because of the makeup of the supervisorial district, a Republican would have the best chance of winning the race.

Bouncing Atkinson out of office is just one of several goals Baxter has for the Phoenix Gay community. In San Francisco

last week to be a practicing homosexual, he talked about his challenges when he returned to Phoenix.

Through a political action committee he hopes to see \$50,000 raised by the Gay community in 1984. By a stronger upfront Gay profile, he hopes to make the Gay community a leader of coalition politics in Phoenix. To be successful, he said the Arizona Lesbian/Gay Task Force will deliver a minimum of 100 openly Gay work-

ers on Election Day. He said their task force will continue a strong voter registration drive throughout Phoenix in Gay bars and businesses.

Baxter acknowledges that part of the success of the political Gay community in Phoenix results from changes in the whole political structure. District elections have come to Phoenix, and the new Mayor, Terry Goddard, has aligned himself with Gay and other minority communities. Conversely, Goddard was elected with the help of the Gay community. As a matter of fact, all the city council members supported by the Gay community, save one, were elected in the last election.

It is this new political energy which gives strength to Baxter's belief that there will be a Gay rights ordinance in Phoenix in 1984. He says there are enough votes on the city council to achieve passage. While in San Francisco, Baxter spent time studying the recently passed Gay rights bill in Oakland.

Kirk Baxter is filling a high profile spot as an openly Gay activist in Phoenix. In 1979 and 1980 he was the President of the Gay Academic Union at Arizona State University. In 1981, 82 and 83, he co-chaired the Arizona Lesbian/Gay Human Rights March and Rally. One year ago he helped found the Arizona Lesbian/Gay Task Force. The task force is fast becoming a major strength in the Phoenix political arena.

During the recent furor about Supervisor Atkinson, questions regarding the position of the Gay community were virtually all directed to Baxter.

When asked if he would next be running for President of the U.S., he said with a twinkle in his eye and without skipping a beat, "I can't run until 1996!" ■

Cancer Institute Awards to AIDS Research

The Cancer Research Institute (CRI), a nonprofit organization located in New York City unique in its commitment to immunological approaches to cancer, has funded a program for the research of Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome (AIDS), it was announced this week by James E. Siegel, Executive Director of the Institute. CRI has committed \$303,000 to initiate the program by funding the major areas of concern: studies in the origin, pathology, and treatment of AIDS.

The grants have been awarded to: Simon Karpatkin, MD, Department of Medicine, NYU Medical Center; Michael Marmer, PhD, Department of Environmental Medicine, NYU Medical Center; Bijan Safai, MD, Dermatology Service, Memorial Hospital for Cancer and Allied Diseases; Peter J. Tattersall, PhD, Department of Human Genetics, Yale University School of Medicine; Joyce I. Wallace, MD of New York City; Steven S. Witkin, PhD,

Department of Obstetrics & Gynecology, Cornell University Medical College; Susan Zollapazner, PhD, and Daniel M. Knowles, MD, Department of Pathology at NYU Medical Center.

Those receiving grants have been chosen by the Institute's Scientific Advisory Council, composed of many of the world's outstanding immunologists.

Commenting on the announcement, Dr. Lloyd Old, Medical Director of the CRI Scientific Advisory Council, said, "AIDS is a major concern and a major mystery — a compelling problem that merits a special CRI program. Additionally, it should be observed that this epidemic of AIDS and its association with Kaposi's sarcoma provides a vivid illustration of the close relationship between the immune system and cancer. A thorough understanding of the causes and progression of AIDS should also teach us much about cancer and a host of other diseases." ■

Men's Therapy Group

A new Group Therapy experience for Gay/Bi men is being offered Tuesday nights in the Castro beginning January 24. The group from 8:15 to 10 p.m. focuses on relationships and intimacy, processing the communication between group members, limited to 8, as it develops.

in the group. Also included is a focus on maintaining healthy sexual styles and other participant concerns. The group will be led by Alan Rockway, PhD, a licensed Clinical Psychologist, and is sponsored by Castro Valencia Psychotherapy Center.

Fees are \$20 per session with insurance accepted. For information call 821-6774. ■

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SF Fair Holds "Contest for a Contest"

The San Francisco Fair & Exposition is again sponsoring a "Contest for a Contest." Bay Area residents are invited to put on their creative thinking caps and dream up ideas for contests at the city's 1984 urban "county" fair.

The top three winners of the Fair's "Contest for a Contest" will receive cash prizes of \$300, \$200, and \$100, respectively, and will see their ideas come to life as actual contests at the third annual San Francisco Fair & Exposition, June 14-17 at Fort Mason.

Contest ideas must capture the spirit of San Francisco life and will be judged on the basis of originality, diversity, and ability to be produced.

Submit ideas in writing by February 14 to Merle Gold-

stone, Competitions Manager, San Francisco Fair & Exposition, 540 Van Ness Avenue, San Francisco, CA 94102. Winners will be notified by mail and their winning ideas will be published in the official Fair Contest Book, available to the public in April — with full credit.

The Fair's "Fog Calling Contest," which drew national, even international attention, was the top winner in last year's "Contest for a Contest." Other favorites among the Fair's 50 competitions included the "Impossible Parking Space Race," "The Best Come-On Contest," a cappuccino judging and a bicycle messenger's race. More than 35,000 people attended the four-day event which is highlighted by a galaxy of entertainment, competitions, food and drink, crafts and exhibits. ■

Elders Lunch

The Gay and Lesbian Outreach to Elders Program of Operation Concern is sponsoring its first luncheon of the new year.

The event will be held on

Saturday, January 21, from 12:30 p.m., at the San Francisco Home Health Services, 225 30th Street.

Call Stafford or Sheryl to confirm your reservation at 620-7000 v/tty. Wheelchair accessible. ■

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GUEST COLUMN

Time for More Gay Republican Clubs Around the Bay

by Bob Bacci

Has the time come that Gay Republican clubs can be established in other counties around the Bay Area to join ranks with Concerned Republicans for Individual Rights in San Francisco? Former President of CRIR Robert Bacci thinks so and relates his experience as to why both the Gay Republican community and the Republican establishment are prepared to do so.

During the course of the Christmas holidays, I was introduced at a party across the Bay as a Republican activist. Of course, being used to attacks from the left, I was certain that I would be accosted. I was most surprised, however, at the direction of the attack. One of the guests, a Republican and apparently somewhat involved politically for a great number of years, approached me lamenting and berating the lack of Republican participation in the recent Oakland Gay Rights Ordinance victory. The individual was most irate that the East Bay Lesbian/Gay Democratic Club was taking all the credit and there was not any Republican presence to share that credit.

This individual did not know about SF's Concerned Republicans for Individual Rights and was interested to hear that there was such an organization. However, his frustrations again loomed large when informed that the new CRIR President was an Oakland resident and had not participated in the hearings or in demanding recogni-



Former CRIR president Bob Bacci
(Photo: Rink)

tion for Republican input into the ordinance. I then had to explain to him that it is out of events just like this that political clubs are organized and that it is probably time for him and other Alameda County Republicans to form a Republican organization.

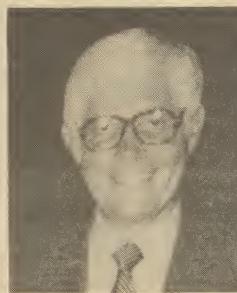
In terms of following up on the formation of an East Bay Republican club, I followed up a lead that I had received at the

GGBA Celebrates 10th Anniversary; John Anderson to Speak at Banquet

John B. Anderson, 1980 presidential candidate and founder of the National Unity Party, will be the guest speaker at the Golden Gate Business Association's Installation Banquet and Awards Presentation to be held on Wednesday, January 25, in the Cabernet Ballroom of the new Hotel Meridien in San Francisco.

No-host cocktails will begin at 6 p.m. followed by dinner at 7:30 p.m. San Francisco Municipal Court Judge Herb Donaldson will swear in the 11-member board of directors including: Laurie McBride, President; John Peterman, Vice-President; Mike Newton, Secretary, and Deborah Udin, Treasurer. The program will include presentation of special GGBA awards for community and membership service.

GGBA, a nonprofit association, is celebrating its 10th anniversary and is the largest Gay



John Anderson featured at GGBA's 10th Installation Banquet. (Photo: Rink)

and Lesbian business association in the world with over 750 members representing all professions and business services.

The general public is welcome. Those interested should call the GGBA for reservations at 956-8660. ■

tained by calling Deborah Farra at the Law Offices of Jerry E. Berg, 391-8200, or the event coordinator, Law Wilson, 861-4242.

Studds is expected to speak early in the event, as a large crowd is expected. ■

Gay PAC Party

Santa Cruz Mayor John Laird and Human Rights Campaign Fund Executive Director Vic Basil will join local Lesbian and Gay activists in support of the Human Rights Campaign Fund at Saturday's cocktail party and dinner honoring Congressman Gerry Studds.

The \$25 per person cocktail party, set for Albion Hall, 141 Albion Place, from 5:30 to 7:30 p.m. on January 21, will be followed by a dinner with major donors, contributors of \$250 or more, at 132 Bush Street, hosted by Joe Ellis, formerly of Trinity Place.

Tickets for the cocktail party and seats at the dinner are still available. An invitation or more information about the event or the Campaign Fund can be ob-

Pride Goes Bingo

Weekly Bingo began at Pride Center on Tuesday, January 17, at 7:15pm. Cash prizes are offered. Bingo has come a long way since you were kids, say Pride Center organizers.

Bingo will be run by Pride volunteers with help from their friends in Gay Games and the Gay Men's Chorus. A minimum admission of \$6 provides one with six cards per game and the entrance to a great evening's entertainment. ■

State Convention in Long Beach, namely that the Alameda County Chairman had some people that were interested in forming a new Log Cabin Club. I spoke to her and it turned out that the individuals had inadvertently stumbled upon the name and definitely were not Gay or interested in forming a predominantly Gay or Lesbian Republican organization. In any case, the Alameda County Chairman is certainly supportive of these efforts and, while she doesn't have a handful of names in her "black book," she would certainly wish the effort well. It is at this point that I would call upon Gay Republicans in Alameda and Contra Costa Counties to come forward and join with moderate Republicans from those same counties to create a new organization in the East Bay.

I would further add that there is long-term benefit to all Gay Republicans in forming additional Gay Republican clubs. With such organizations in at least ten counties, it will be possible to form an umbrella group which will obtain representation on the Executive Committee of the State Republican Party. Obviously, while great strides have been made in San Francisco, Los Angeles, and San Diego Counties because of CRIR and the respective Log Cabin Clubs and other gains in Solano and Sonoma Counties, it won't be possible to have a major input to the State Republican Party until there is a perceived, across-the-state push of a Gay Republican agenda or at least a Republican agenda sensitive to Gays and Gay Republicans participating directly in the center of the party machinery. ■

NGTF Seeks Media Director

The National Gay Task Force has announced a nationwide search for a Media Director as part of its effort to increase the visibility of the Gay community in the general media. In addition to carrying on regular press relations, the media director will be working to educate the media regarding the Gay community and issues affecting it. NGTF's Executive Director, Virginia Apuzzo, described this as "a major step toward a comprehensive media strategy that is no longer reactive and is more successful at getting our message across."

The job description for the media director is as follows:

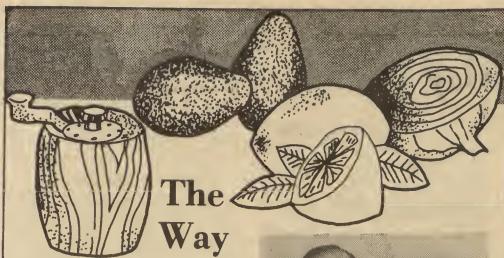
Media Director for National Gay Task Force — For media education campaign and press relations with straight media and Gay/Lesbian press. Familiarity with mainstream press (electronic and print) and Gay community essential. Good contacts a plus. Minimum combined five years experience in both Gay and straight media required. Good writing and editing skills a must. Located in Washington, DC, or New York City. Equal Opportunity Employer.

Interested persons should send a resume, clips, and a cover letter by February 15 to NGTF, Dept. C.P., 80 Fifth Avenue, New York, NY 10011. ■

OC's Lesbian Group

Operation Concern is offering a Coming Out Group for Lesbians. The group will meet Tuesdays, 7 to 8:30 p.m., beginning February 14 and continuing until April 3.

Contact Mary Foley or Anette Cohen for information and an intake appointment at Operation Concern, 626-7000. ■



The Way to His Heart

Campy Canapes

Now that you've got dinner planned you're starting to wonder about those television hostesses you see passing around plates of hors d'oeuvres to the guests before dinner. What have they got that you haven't? Move over Mary Tyler Moore.

Hop out to the market and get a package of chipped beef (you know, in those plastic bags in the section with the cold cuts), a basket of cherry tomatoes, and a package of cream cheese. That's for the cold snacks. Then you'll need a stick (about 7 oz.) of Coon Brand cheddar cheese, or any other very sharp cheddar, a pound of bulk pork sausage (not links), and some Bisquick, if you don't already have it, for the coon balls.

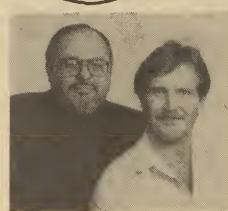
These are both easy to make so you don't have to worry about doing this long in advance or not having enough time to do your face before they arrive.

Take the cream cheese and put it into a bowl. Sprinkle on some garlic powder — not garlic salt. Add a splash or two of Worcester sauce and a dash of Tabasco. Sprinkle on a little pepper. Then take a fork and mash it all together until the cheese is soft enough to spread. Cut the chipped beef slices in half, then take each piece and put on it a dab of cream cheese and a half of a cherry tomato. Roll up and spear with a toothpick.

Now for the hot hors d'oeuvres — coon balls. Grate the cheese into a bowl. Add two cups of Bisquick and the pork sausage. Mix this up with your fingers until well blended. Roll the mixture into small balls about the size of Swedish meatballs and put them on an ungreased cookie sheet. Wait to cook these until just before your company arrives because they don't take very long and should be served hot. Then, while you're pouring the drinks, put the coon balls into the oven at 400°. They should be ready in about ten minutes and should be a light golden color.

Of course you serve these delicacies on your best crystal, garnished with parsley springs and flair. You do remember flair, don't you?

P. Hirsch



GUEST COLUMN

KS Therapies Kill, Not KS

by S.M. Anderson

Last week I had dinner with someone who was receiving triple agent chemotherapy for Kaposi's sarcoma. Needless to say, I was shocked that the medical profession was still administering chemotherapy, much less three-agent chemotherapy for Kaposi's sarcoma.

For over three years the medical profession has used chemotherapy in treating Kaposi's sarcoma. The result being almost everyone is dead. Did they die from AIDS or did they die from the resulting immune suppression caused by the chemotherapy? What bothers me is that I know people who have refused treatment and they are still alive.

Exactly one year ago pathologists at the National Institute of Health and the National Cancer Institute published in the British medical journal *Lancet* (Jan. 1/8, 1983) their opinion and findings that Kaposi's sarcoma was probably not a cancer but just CMV virus replicating within the cells of an immune suppressed person.

Why is the medical community continuing to treat KS as a cancer when everyone dies? Are they too nearsighted to realize that some people who have refused treatment (against the advice of their doctors) are alive and well (some after two years)?

Many AIDS specialists and Kaposi's sarcoma experts have said they agree with the findings that KS is not a cancer. Since the experts are saying KS is not a cancer, why are the oncologists still treating KS with cancer

drugs?

Since KS is not a cancer, a restructuring of the AIDS treatment programs should be immediately undertaken. It is about time that treatment of AIDS patients be moved out of the Oncology Departments of hospitals. Their specialty is treating cancer with immune suppressing drugs. Since KS is not a cancer, let's not treat it as one. The treatment of KS by oncologists has been a failure, so let's get some new ideas and perspectives into motion. Oncologists should not be treating KS patients. Would you go to an eye doctor for a broken leg?

a position of becoming a ward of the government.

2. If your doctor suggests chemotherapy or interferon to treat your KS, I would strongly suggest you get a new doctor. There are doctors who are more aware and progressive.

3. Get extensive testing for parasites and complete treatment. Demand to be treated for pathological and nonpathological intestinal parasites. Parasites cause cellular immune suppression and in my opinion cause AIDS. In some cases treatment of the parasites causes symptoms of AIDS to vanish.

4. Increase your nutritional intake. Become educated about benefits of vitamin and mineral supplements. It has been shown many times that Vitamin C in high doses works on viral problems. (Remember, KS is a virus and not a cancer.)

Two years after being diagnosed with KS, I am healthy — no thanks to some doctors.

There are at present two new cases of CDC defined AIDS in San Francisco each day and at least three deaths a week. This figure is low because there are many other diseases involved that are not being considered or followed.

This is a plea to the men who have been diagnosed or to be diagnosed with AIDS or the other related diseases or conditions.

1. Be sure you have medical insurance so you can get many medical opinions. Getting many different medical opinions is very important and will help you decide what to do. It might save your life. Do not put yourself in

I have spent the last two years studying the medical aspects of AIDS. I do not have any medical degrees, but I do have a very healthy body almost two years after being diagnosed with KS. I have been told by doctors I was wasting my money on Vitamin C. I have been told Linus Pauling is a quack by medical doctors. I have been told it is all in my head by medical doctors. I have been told chemotherapy would save my life by medical doctors. Well, I am alive and healthy after taking my health into my own hands and making rational decisions. The wonderful thing about this is that others that have followed this advice are also alive and well.

AIDS UPDATE

WHAT'S THE LATEST INFORMATION ON AIDS?

For the facts from the front line of medical research and San Francisco health experts, watch Viacom Cablevision's special six-part series on Cable 6:

MON, JAN 23	What Have We Learned So Far?	8:00 PM
TUE, JAN 24	Research and Treatment	8:00 PM
WED, JAN 25	The Psycho/Social Side	8:00 PM
THU, JAN 26	Coping with the Unknown	8:00 PM
FRI, JAN 27	A Crisis in Health Care	8:00 PM

FRI, JAN 27 AIDS: A San Francisco Update 8:30 PM

With Dr. Mervyn Silverman, SF Director of Public Health; Dr. Marcus Conant, Co-Director Kaposi's Sarcoma Clinic, UCSF; Dr. Paul Volberding, Chief of Oncology, SF General Hospital. Viewers will be able to call in their questions during this live presentation.

VIEWPOINT

Supervisor Harry Britt discusses the issues with Chronicle Reporter Marshall Kilduff.

Friday, January 27, 7:30PM

ViacomCablevision

MORE OF WHAT YOU'RE LOOKING FOR

Gays In Prison: The Men Who Write the Letters

What Can Be Believed and What Overlooked?

by Mike Hippel

Sometimes they just want a friend, someone who will write to them: "Lonely B/M prisoner, 25, 6'1/2", 168 lbs., single and considered good-looking. Would like to hear from GWM who are interested in a good friendship." Sometimes they want considerably more: "Horny, hairy, and hot Gay male is looking for a good friend, sexy lover, or just any ol' body who will write. I have some time to do and will be out in 1985. Need a lover, you decide. I'm 25, brown hair, dark eyes, 165 lbs, 6 ft. I also have a nice rump." The ads and letters are touching, humorous, pathetic, or absurd. The men who write them, Gay prisoners from all over the country, differ as much from each other as people everywhere do. But one thing they have in common — the ones who are sincere, at any rate — they are reaching out to fulfill a need. They want to establish contact with someone on the outside in order to make life behind bars a little more bearable.

For almost a year the Bay Area Reporter has received a growing number of letters from prisoners from as far away as Starke, Florida, and from as close as Bryant Street. Community interest in these letters is so great that often an entire page of the paper is devoted to them. Reaction to the letters, however, has been as combative and as polarized as it is to nearly every other issue the community faces. "I am appalled at the space your paper provides for prisoner letters," writes one person. "From my perspective these men had a choice between being law-abiding citizens and participatory in the freedoms of this land, or stepping outside the law and dealing with the consequences. I have no sympathy for these men." Others express thanks to the editor "for making the inner world of jail life known to those on the outside." One asks, "Can't we as a community and as a society try to reach out to those persons in honesty and sincerity and bring them back into a healthy, progressive and meaningful life?"

The debate rages, but few know very much about the prisoners themselves. Few have ever written to a prisoner. Fewer still have ever been inside a prison or met an inmate. For this reason, so that the lives of those behind bars could become better known, I decided to contact as many prisoners as I could. In order to narrow the focus of the survey and to save time, I wrote only to Gay prisoners in California. Of the twenty prisoners contacted, about one-third responded. All agreed to share their feelings with Bay Area Reporter readers. None asked for anything in return, except a copy of the article, and in one case, a job recommendation. This, then, is their story.

Jim B., a native of Barstow, CA., is 24 years old and has been an inmate at California Men's Colony (CMC) in San Luis Obispo for the last two years. When he was 20, he was arrested and charged with Section 283 of the penal code — committing a "lewd act with a child" — a felony. The "child" was his lover, who was 15 1/2 years old at the time. Jim was only three and a half years older. Jim does not state how or why he was arrested. Who made the complaint? Who turned him in? When pressed, he says only "Touchy subject! I really feel uncomfortable writing about this, so 'nuff said." He does write that he is due to be released from prison in August 1984 and that he no longer has any communication with his former lover, the then-15-year-old. "He tried to contact me, but I didn't answer his letter," says Jim without explaining.

Life at CMC is not all that difficult for a Gay man, says Jim, for there are so many Gay people there. He estimates that the prison is at least 40% Gay. "Some are in the closet," Jim relates, "but there are many up-front Gays here." Jim B. is one of these. Most of the people on Jim's quad know he is Gay. So do the people at his work assignment. Unlike at San Francisco County Jail, up-front Gays like Jim are not isolated from the general population in a Gay section. They are separated only if they are in danger or pose a threat to someone else, "the same as with heterosexual prisoners." Despite this possibility of violence, it is a fairly "mellow" place, Jim states — the "country club" of the California Prison system.

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do, in cases, less time than I'm doing for having an affair with a 16-year-old boy (knowing that a woman my age with a young man wouldn't even be taken to court). The scales of justice are a bit awkward in many ways."

Not only does Stafford find "justice" awkward and frustrating, he also finds prison life in general most discouraging. Although he believes that CMC is "one of the better California prisons," he still calls it a "hell-hole" and speaks of the many problems and pressures there. He is not the only one who has had difficulty adjusting to prison life, he notes. "There are some here that have given into the pressures and found different forms of escape. Suicide is rare, but it does happen. More often is the case where an individual will start getting into trouble of one type or another as a release for the pent-up frustration. Naturally, these actions bring even more frustration in the form of disciplinary actions."

Partly to escape the pressure of his environment, Stafford would like someone "to turn to who will understand the feelings when words are not necessary or possible." He is tired of being alone. Sex, which is possible at CMC, is not enough, he says. It is usually "more of a hassle than the moment's pleasure is worth. There is little emotional satisfaction involved. I don't like 'turn-

a lot of difference. Write if you want!"

★ ★ ★

Richard "Hans" Nelson describes himself this way: "6' tall, 175 lbs., greying-blond hair, brown eyes, hairy chest, 30-inch waist, 10-1/2-inch shirt size, snuggly, 10-1/2-inch shoe size, resemble a cross between Chuck Connors and Kirk Douglas because of my cleft chin, square jaw, dimples, high forehead, big bone structure, and fairly good-sized arms and hands. I've got a healthy 8-inch cock, cut, and balls like large grapes, they say, and on the streets I wear a red hanky in my right back pocket. Yes, I've accommodated many fist up my ass, but in here, hardly anyone even knows what FFA stands for, except the Future Farmers of America." Revealing enough? "Hans" hasn't even begun to tell all yet.

"In here" is Lompoc Federal Prison, where Hans, as he calls himself, was sent in 1981 for bank robbery. In July 1981 he robbed a bank in L.A. Four days later he turned himself over to the FBI. He was sentenced to four years at Lompoc but is due to be released in September 1984 (or July, if he gets two months knocked off for good behavior). It is not his first time in prison. He has spent time previously at San Quentin.

Hans's description of his per-

INSTITUTION	F.S.P.	CELL NUMBER	15-1515
NAME	James E. Howell	NUMBER	08685
JOB ASSIGNMENT	Food Shop	DATE	1-10-87
TO: 342 1528 15th St San Francisco, CA 94103			
RE: Correspondence List			
Dear Sirs			
Concerning my request that I be considered for the Job here. Since I am not available to do my assigned tasks, it is possible to give me a job & will work out the best solution and concern.			
Respectfully yours, James E. Howell			
P.S. My job here is to take care of my cell & to do my assigned tasks. I am not available to do my assigned tasks. I am not available to do my assigned tasks.			

ing tricks' in here or out there; I want much more than that. Because of the instability of most prison relationships, however, I seriously doubt if I will find the one to love I am looking for. I might, though, so I do not completely shut out the possibility."

Since it has been difficult to find this special someone in prison, Stafford has turned to the newspapers for comfort and understanding. He is looking for a pen pal. He finds it discouraging, however, that so many people underestimate the value of a pen pal or suspect his motives in searching for one. "It isn't the money, gifts, or any material thing," he writes. "The best thing is that there is the knowledge of a person who cares — someone to talk to and release a little feeling with. Just knowing there is a place to turn makes

personal history reads like an excerpt from *Straight to Hell: The Manhattan Review of Unnatural Acts*. He grew up in a family of 19 children — 14 boys and five girls — so "growing boys and hard cocks were very common, and I experienced male sex with my brothers as early as eight years old and continued experiencing sex with them and other males both men and boys up to and including now." His schoolyears, he continues, were divided between the 4,000 boys at the Florida military academy he attended and the 350 employees on his father's ranch and dairy farm in New Jersey. (God save the cows!) He even had sex with his father, he claims. "Books or a book I should write one day," he reasons, "as my experiences are unlimited and quite memorable."

(Continued on next page)

(Continued from previous page)

Hans's description of life in prison is no less lurid and revolves entirely around sex. Clearly, unlike Stafford, he is not as oppressed by the limitations of prison as he is inspired by the opportunities. "Just about everyone here knows I'm Gay," he writes. "I guess mainly because I'm such a pig at times. I've had more gorgeous men wanting me to suck them off here than some places out there on the streets. But I've made it a condition with all of them that whatever I do to them they have to do to me in return. That shut off a lot of potential tricks, but oddly enough, not as many as I had thought."

Although sex happens all the time at Lompoc, says Hans, it is a quick, furtive affair because technically it is against the rules, and no one wants to get caught. Consequently, sexual experiences last ten to fifteen minutes usually. On occasion, however, "You can have sex for half an hour, but that means having others aware of it taking place, having guys standing point, looking out for the guards, and not too many of the heteros in here like other guys to know they're having sex with anyone."

One of the reasons he has little trouble finding partners, explains Hans, is that he has no teeth — "the toothless piranha," he calls himself. He lost them when he was a victim of a gang rape in San Quentin in 1975. In a riot pitting straight black inmates against homosexuals, six black men pinned him down while a seventh "shoved his monstrous cock down my throat." Although it might sound like heaven to some, Hans rebelled. "I can and have given a lot of sex to many men in one sitting and enjoyed it all, but try to take sex from me with forcible intent without being involved in any kind of S&M scene, and I get very resentful and refuse to comply." In this case, he nearly bit his attacker's cock off, and as a result was beaten senseless by the others. For three weeks he lay in the hospital in a coma, and when he regained consciousness, he found he had no teeth, a broken rib, a broken leg, a broken arm, a broken jaw, nose, and three fingers — not to mention 39 stitches. When he got out of the hospital, he tattooed a swastika on his ass, in the hope of repelling future attackers — an unusual method, perhaps, but one that works, according to Hans. Since arriving at Lompoc, he has been the victim of no further attacks.

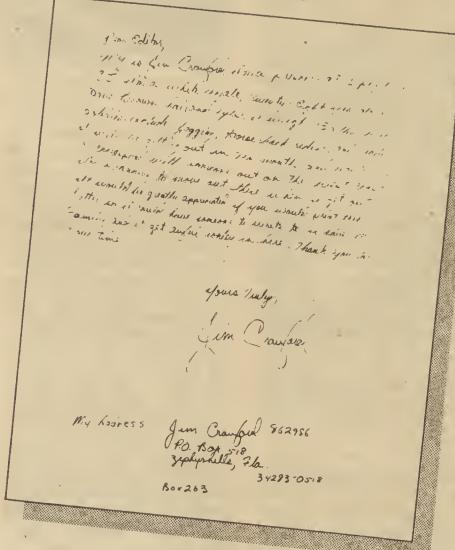
Unlike Hans, many Gay prisoners at Lompoc do not give it away but sell it. These are the Queens, he says, the ones the straight men find most desirable. Payment takes the form of cartons of cigarettes. "If I changed my lifestyle, shaved my legs, grew my hair long, cut off my moustache, plucked my eyebrows, stopped lifting weights, grew my fingernails long and got effeminate, swished when I walked and became nellie, I guess I could make tons of money here, but that's not my scene," Hans explains.

What does the future hold for Hans? New friends, he hopes. "I'm not lover-hunting, but if and when that certain guy comes along, then I'll deal with it openly and honestly." Partly in hopes of finding that certain guy, he submitted his first ad to the B.A.R. over one and a half years ago. From that ad he got 17 replies and three regular pen pals. Since that time he has run his picture in the paper and has created a reputation with B.A.R. readers that promises to be as notorious as the one the Toothless Piranha has created at Lompoc. But do you think Hans minds? No — some Gay spirits not even prison can repress.

Jim B., Brian is 25 years old and a native of Van Nuys, California. In 1980 and 1981 he spent time at CMC in San Luis Obispo "for drugs." It was his first time in prison. In 1983 he was sent back to prison — this time to the Duell Vocational Institute in Tracy — for carrying a gun. "Why did I have the gun?" Brian asks. "Well, I was working with lots of drugs, and you know what kind of freaks that brings around. I always had large sums of cash and drugs around, so that's why I had the gun. They got me walking across the street to get into a car

Jim B., Brian is oppressed by a sense of despair rather than buffered by a sense of hope. "If you are Gay or whatever," he concludes, "don't come to prison. It's not a place to play around. Here they play for keeps, and there is no way out of it once you fall into the rut of life in prison."

Regi Mentle (his preferred punk name) was convicted of second-degree murder four years ago, when he was only twenty years old. He swears it was self-defense, but he believes that he was convicted because the D.A. (who he calls a "sick man") wanted to make "a big deal out of me because I



and bam, there they were and off I went."

According to Brian, life in DVI is "somewhat harder than it would be in other prisons." He calls it "a hard-core prison compared to Vacaville or CMC, where there are lots of Gays around." At DVI says Brian, "as far as I know I am the only one" — but no one else knows it, for Brian takes pains to conceal his sexual identity. This makes life difficult, of course. "I stay to myself because I don't want to play all the prison games, and that makes it hard on me, because when something comes down I have no one to turn to for help."

If Brian let others know that he is Gay, he might find the kind of companionship that would make life in prison easier, but he does not do this, for the poten-

How sincere are Gay prisoners seeking Pen Pals?

tial danger far outweighs the possible benefits for him. Life alone may be rough, but life as an open homosexual can be even rougher, Brian says. He speaks from experience. "The first time I was in prison I was out front about being Gay, but after being raped and beat up real bad and told you are going to do this and that, and there is no way around it, you tend to shy away from telling anybody you are Gay, unless you want to get hurt in the long run." Being a "big boy" at 175 pounds and six feet tall didn't help Brian his first time in prison and hasn't helped him since, so Brian resorts to other methods to keep out of trouble.

For Brian, life in prison is "sheer madness." Perhaps hardest of all is his isolation. "No sex at all in here," he complains. The only sex he ever had was the time he was raped. Also difficult is the work he does, for which he does not get paid. In addition, he has little idea what he will do with himself when he gets out in April 1984. Unlike

Gay prisoners at CMC, being Gay still causes problems, according to Regi. "Gays are treated very differently," he writes. "I don't understand why homophobic, faggot-baiting cops are allowed to work where there are a lot of Gay inmates." Regi does not have as difficult a time dealing with his environment as some of the other Gay prisoners do, however. "Some are having a harder time than I because they can't ignore their surroundings and the frequent sex plays."

In spite of the harassment and the complications that arise because he is Gay, Regi does not regret for one moment that he is Gay. "I have been Gay all my life. I knew I was the day I found out the difference between boys and girls and have sucked cock since. I am what I am, I love it, and if they can't accept me as me, then fuck 'em." This sense of dignity is not all that he has to fall back on. Relationships also help him to ease the frustrations of prison life — "as long as I don't get caught in the act, which I have once," Regi has had two lovers at CMC. His present lover is a fellow inmate named James (aka Doug), who is just coming out. They have the usual difficulties of Gay couples elsewhere — infidelity, jealousy, possessiveness — but both say it is good to be Gay and to have a lover, and both fall back on the relationship for comfort.

The hardest thing for Regi at CMC is being so far removed from day-to-day life on the streets for so long. This is one of the reasons he wants a pen pal. "I'd like to hear how the movies are that I can't go to see, and things like, 'Is my favorite bar still there?' 'Does Doug still work at the Castro Station?' 'What's the latest on the code chart, etc.?' 'Do you know Larry Beach of the Balcony?' All I want from a pen pal is news from the outside." All Regi wants, really, is a lifeline. 1992, after all, is a long way away.

After Regi was convicted, he was first sent to San Quentin, where life, he says, was intolerable for a Gay man. "The men there believed all homosexuals are women, that they are so masculine ('real men'), and that we are nothing more than property to be used and shared and sold. I couldn't handle playing a weak feminine role for the rest of my prison term, so I played a weak feminine queen for the people there to get out as fast as I could." Too obvious queens, it seems, are transferred out of San Quentin.

Partly due to his homosexuality and partly because he was "sort of a victim of violence" at San Quentin, Regi was transferred to CMC in 1982. "This place," he writes, "is a little better because a lot of Gays are placed here, but not much better. There's still the egotistical straight macho man here that tries to dominate your every move. I try to act just as bad as them so they'll leave me alone. But then there's the occasional hot number you just have to have." And how does one go about getting that hot number? Regi was informed upon his arrival at CMC that "if I wanted any dick, I'd have to shave off my beard and act like a broad" — just like at San Quentin. He shaved, but unlike his behavior at San Quentin, he has refused to play a weak, passive role at CMC. The result for him has been something of a compromise. To get that "occasional hot number," he will do what he has to do, but around his Gay friends, he acts himself.

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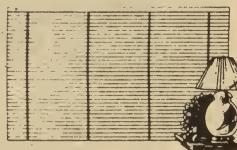
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BAY AREA REPORTER JANUARY 19, 1984 PAGE 15

POLITICS AND POKER

Demo D— Debate



WAYNE FRIDAY

Watching last Sunday's 3-hour live debate on PBS by the eight Democratic presidential candidates was, if not educational, at least entertaining. The debate, coming from New Hampshire where all are campaigning for next month's primary, ended up in a shouting match between Mondale and Glenn, with others doing their best to get in a few swipes as well. But what the hell, with no pro football

Only George McGovern, Gary Hart, or Jesse Jackson (none of whom have a chance at the nomination) appeared or sounded the least bit "presidential."

Republican Reagan's political advisors had to have been pleased.

Quentin Kopp, basking in the news after his surprise switch vote last week on the vacancy decontrol rent issue, immediately started playing his



California's Alan Cranston got blasted for being a one-issue candidate.

scheduled for last Sunday, what better to watch? All eight Democrats fought for on-camera time, and I suspect that to many viewers even Ronald Reagan was beginning to look good again as the three-hour show dragged on.

Colorado's Gary Hart took repeated shots at California's "one issue" candidate, Alan Cranston, and seemingly scored points in doing so. Walter Mondale, the probable nominee, suffered from an apparent case of foot-in-mouth disease and showed surprising lack of self-control by his childlike shouting match with Ohio's John Glenn. Florida's former governor, Reuben Askew, never did shut his mouth and repeatedly hogged the camera, pulling props out of his pockets to emphasize his rehearsed arguments. Cranston, recently out of the hospital, looked terribly thin and gaunt (even his recent dye job did little for his appearance). Cranston looked the least presidential of the lot (kept screaming something about "I'm still younger than Ronald Reagan," etc.). South Carolina's Ernest Hollings scored points, reminding both Glenn and Cranston that they had consistently voted for Reagan's fiscal programs, but Hollings' annoying drawl reminds me of a character out of *Cat on a Hot Tin Roof* and he probably should contact Jimmy Carter's speech teacher.

The moderator of the first part of the show, ABC's Ted Koppel treated the candidates like little brothers and they seemingly weren't ready for the tough Phil Donahue who stirred them into shouting anger during the last hour of the too-long debate. Although the eight Democrats touched on nearly everything (only Jackson and the anti-Gay Askew hedged on the abortion issue) Gay rights or the proposed national Gay rights legislation was never mentioned during the entire three hours.

February 7 Cable Car Awards show to give the Cranston campaign a much-needed shot in the arm. • Boston's new Mayor Raymond Flynn, fulfilling a campaign promise to that city's Gay community, last week signed an executive order banning discrimination on the basis of sexual orientation in Boston's hiring and employment and in city services.

Wasn't it the U.S. Olympic Committee that forced Gay Games here to drop the use of the word "olympics" because of fear of image the Gay connection might cause? Well, Broadway's hottest transvestite, George Heard of the smash hit Gay musical *La Cage aux Folles*, brandished his boa and sang "I Am What I Am" at the City Center in New York last Sunday as Broadway's brightest stars carried the torch — the Olympic torch — in the first of three entertainment benefits to support the U.S. Olympic Committee. • And in Houston, Mayor Kathy Whitmire and three City Councilmen took a tour last weekend of the city's Gay bars to thank the Gay population for their heavy support of her recent re-election. • Anne Higgins, the director of the White House Office of presidential correspondence, says that among the more than 12,000 letters the White House receives daily are more and more wedding announcements for John and Paul, wanting the president to congratulate them (he doesn't).

Alan Cranston's financial problems keep mounting — before they could make a recent three-day swing through Iowa with Cranston, reporters covering him were required to produce \$436.50 transportation money up front, more than half of it for bus fares. • Cranston, incidentally, says he has a list of 25 potential women vice presidential candidates (San Francisco's Dianne Feinstein is an announced Mondale supporter). • John Burton telling ABC's "Good Morning America" news show this week that he spent more than \$100,000 on his cocaine habit, a problem he now says he no longer has.

The group of L.A. Gays who formed the "Eddie Murphy's Disease Foundation" and took out full-page ads in the trade papers to protest his repeated attacks on Gays, including homophobic slurs regarding AIDS, say they have begun receiving threats. Peter Alexander, a spokesperson for the group, refused to appear on camera this



Fritz Mondale lets fly at Demo hopefuls' debate.

week while being interviewed by CNN and claimed that the threats are being taken seriously and forcing the group back "into the closet" but will continue the campaign against the Black comedian's vicious anti-Gay attacks. Murphy's diatribe against Gays on HBO and his Columbia album remind me of the anti-Gay attacks made a few years ago by another Black comedian, Richard Pryor (who Murphy, incidentally, calls his "hero"). • Murphy, incidentally, will be the guest video jockey on MTV January 25, from 7 to 8 p.m. As the guest jock Murphy will announce video clips, including his own, and some expect a reply to the recent uproar caused by his anti-Gay attacks. • Lia Belli campaigning hard for Milton Marks' State Senate seat.

In Los Angeles, Ginny Foot, the feminist leader acquitted last fall of a 1965 murder charge in Louisiana, filed a \$5 million lawsuit against NOW official Shelly Mandell — the woman

she claims triggered her arrest — and others who allegedly conspired against her. • And in Mississippi, the three transvestite prostitutes who had claimed they had sex with then Attorney-General Bill Allain, now the governor, have changed their



Mississippi's Gov. Bill Allain

stories and now claim they were paid by supporters of his political opponent to make the charges. Allain, though he denied the charges during the campaign, is accused by many Mississippi politicos of being a closet Gay. • One of the City Hall good guys, Deputy Mayor Hadley Roff, lost his daughter Kelly in a tragic auto accident over the weekend.

Governor Deukmejian's State of the State message last week showed what a masterful politician the Republican governor is. Having been attacked repeatedly last year because of his cutbacks, etc., his refusal to raise taxes as legislative Democrats had insisted, and having vetoed more than \$1 billion of the Democrats' programs, the Duke looked like he was in for more heavy sledding this year. But the governor, in his speech to the legislature last week, called for large spending increases for education, mental hospitals, and other programs dear to the hearts of the Democrats, all part of a \$30 billion state budget. Overnight, the protests and criticisms of the governor have stopped — even the Democrats were praising his speech (Willie Brown called the speech "a positive budget; I don't see any main areas of friction at this time") editorial writers are effusive in praising the speech, and clearly, George Deukmejian is still firmly in the driver's seat in Sacramento.

In San Diego, they say that pro-Gay Mayor Roger Hedgecock, a 37-year-old Republican, is now so popular that he seems a shoo-in for a full four-year term this fall. Democrats are finding it difficult to convince a serious candidate to oppose the mayor in November.

District Attorney Arlo Smith is the latest big name to withdraw from the John Glenn effort and is now supporting Walter Mondale for president. ■



Boston City Councilor David Sondras applauds as Mayor Ray Flynn signs an ordinance banning anti-Gay discrimination. Signing occurred at the January 9 meeting of the Boston Lesbian/Gay Political Alliance. (Photo: Mitzel)

GREATER BAY NEWS

ANGELES COUNTY CLAREMONT COLUMBIA COUNTRY VALLEY COUNTRY CITY PALO ALTO MONTEREY BAY SANTA CLARA VALLEY BERKELEY WALNUT CREEK CAMPBELL FREMONT

Berkeley

Self-Congrats for East Bay Demos

Successful Actions Lead Confident Club to Expansive Involvements

by John Wetzel

A self-assured step took the East Bay Lesbian/Gay Democratic Club into the new year earlier this month as the club membership swept through an unusually broad agenda. The evening covered everything from gender balance within the EBL/GDC, to community law enforcement, to next month's California Democratic Convention, to the recent club victory in passing Oakland's comprehensive Gay/Lesbian rights ordinance, and then some.

Club treasurer and project co-chair Joe Acanfora told the club that the lobbying costs for Oakland's new Lesbian/Gay rights law was "low, considering it is one of the strongest of its kind in the country." He put the cost at \$350. "That's approximately one cent for every member of the Oakland community."

The across-the-board housing and employment ordinance was actually finalized two days after the club meeting by an 8-0 vote of the city council. Councilman Gilmore was not present for the vote.

"We are especially thankful for the work put in by the Rev.

Rick Weatherly and members of New Life MCC, as well as Dignity/East Bay, to get religious support for this ordinance," said Armand Boulay, president of the EBL/GDC. "We also had an ally in Dick Groulx of the Alameda County Central Labor Council. Support from the women's community came from the East Bay Women's Coalition and the NWPC."

Much credit should also go to Richard Tuck, of Paramount Professional Services, who helped obtain testimony from many East Bay Gay business people," said Joe Acanfora, who organized the lobbying effort for the EBL/GDC.

That lobbying effort was described as "the most professional" he had ever seen by Chris Peebles of the Montclair-Greater Oakland Democratic Club. Councilmember Marge Gibson, who introduced the ordinance, congratulated the club on their "effectiveness and the control they exercised in making their presentation to the city council. By excluding extraneous issues and focusing everyone's attention on the ordinance and its desirability to many parts of the community, their presen-

tation became outstanding."

This recent success, and a pending domestic partners plan for the city of Berkeley, among other projects, highlights the club's current public image. Members seem encouraged at the meeting to tackle the heftiest of issues.



East Bay Lesbian/Gay Demo Lobbyists were instrumental in the passage of Oakland's nondiscrimination ordinance: (l. to r.) Glenn Collins, Mary Ann Brownstein, Edgar Rakestrau Jr., Barry Witchmar, Kerry Woodward, Tom Bronghan, Rev. A. R. Weatherly, Suzy Ganz, Diane Kuchine, Matt Coles, Armand Boulay, Joe Acanfora and Eric Hsu. (Photo: M. Brownstein)

Next month the California Democratic Party will hold its statewide convention at Oakland's Hyatt Regency. The club hopes to sponsor a hospitality suite reception at the hotel, hosted by all the Bay Area Gay/Lesbian Democratic clubs. The reception will be for the Lesbian and Gay Caucus of the California Democratic Party; the East Bay Club hopes to help create a united Lesbian and Gay delega-

tion to discuss the party's 1984 national platform. The EBL/GDC will invite Alice, Harvey Milk, and Stonewall.

Said club member Leland Traiman, "I think we should sponsor it because we are the host city."

dorse early an unchallenged leader in Gay rights legislation on the Alameda County Board of Supervisors, the governing body that relegates as much as 20 percent of the operating budget of Berkeley's Pacific Center. The center is considered an important community concern throughout the community and has a history of funding shortage crises.

PC Executive Director Allanya Guenther states: "If we felt that the county had the money to give us more than they were, we certainly would initiate direct lobbying efforts." Guenther stresses, "They don't have the resources to increase our funding at the present time." While the Pacific Center gets their county funding through a state-sponsored shared revenue program and funds are limited at the state level, they are directly allocated by vote of the county board of supervisors.

Apparently the East Bay club membership felt it would be cleaner to ignore John George's supervisorial race in this round of endorsements because it would not be endorsing on Marge Gibson's district 4 supervisorial race. Gibson, currently sitting on Oakland's City Council, sponsored the city's new Gay rights law, but club members say they also support some of her opponents in the county seat race.

The club will be endorsing on all three county supervisorial races next June.

OAKLAND

Time to Watch "Our" Team

NEZ PAS

PROUD PHIAL PODAL PIGSKIN

(An Immaculate Reception Nose?)

Yes, even though "they" moved (eloped?) southerly to the smog belt, many here still call them the OAKLAND Raiders. They're playing, again, in the Super Bowl next Sunday, January 22, at 11:30 AM, and many of our local spas will be celebrating that game — and a Raiders victory?

★ Bench & Bar: Bleachers on the "50-yard line" in front of the big screen video, with 25-cent hot dogs and 75-cent beer; regular brunch from 11:30 AM to 2:30 PM; tea dance and party after the game with prizes, fun, and "SIRprizes."

★ Big Mama's: Lots of extra TV's for this "Super Sunday."

★ Jubilee: Opens at 10 AM, with a fizz contest between Pam and Marge. Proceeds from this contest (lasting up to game kickoff) will go toward the Abused Children's Fund; free buffet during the game.

★ Revol/Sassy's: All during the game, when the Raiders score, there will be special drink prices at the bar. Also at the bar, Sassy's special chili dogs for \$1.50, regular dogs \$1. Usual Sunday brunch from 11 AM to 3 PM.

★ Spoiled Brat: Watch THE game on its "special" big screen video! Special bleachers, too! Free "Super Dogs" during the game!

★ Town & Country: During the game, \$1 drinks and 75-cent

beer or wine for ANY touchdown!

★ Turf Club: Lots of special TV's; free hot dogs during the game. After the final whistle, there will be a pool tournament, with an entry fee of \$2. The first place winner will receive \$5 times the number of entrants.

BOUNCING ABOUT THE EAST BAY

ACIE Court of Fantasy and Ice will announce the winner of its logo contest at the Privy Council/General Assembly meeting on Monday, January 23. Watch for posters announcing the time and place.

Not gone and certainly not forgotten, Little Mother (Foxy Lady III and IV) promises to run again this year — for "something!" She told me that I could quote her, "Hell yes, 'she'll' run again and 'she'll' be worse than ever!" Why do I have the feeling that she will run, will win, and will fulfill her promise to be worse than ever?

If men can move mountains, I guess a nationwide chain can move streets — er, make that an avenue! One doesn't have to read their posters too carefully to find, "Now Open. Club CB Baths Eastbay, 2544 73rd Avenue, SAN LEANDRO" . . . ??? Come on, guys; if you're going to be part of Oakland, be a part of OAKLAND!

Why send your prospective customers to another city? Your baths aren't in San Leandro! Besides, there is NO 73rd

(Continued on next page)



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Modesto

Gay Alcoholic Rap Put on Hold

Small Town Pressures Keep Gays — and Alcoholics — in the Closet

by John Wetzel

She started Gay Alcoholics Together because she said a county alcohol counselor was trying to cure her of her alcoholism, and of her homosexuality, to boot. She found that whenever she began talking about her sexuality in AA meetings she "could feel the tension level in the room rising." She talked to friends who realized they were having alcohol problems but didn't want to face up to them. But six months after the group sessions began at Modesto's Metropolitan Community Church, Jean Higgins has been forced to put an end to her involvement in Gay Alcoholics Together . . . temporarily.

In a town where three Gay bars (one of which just opened in the past month) serve most of the social needs of Gays and Lesbians, according to Higgins there is not one community service oriented to the needs of Gay and Lesbian alcoholics.

"We have a pretty good Gay population, and we have the organizations, but the bars overrule everything. People would just much rather go drink," she said. MCC worship coordinator Patricia Litka agreed. "People don't have anything else, though they can go to a restaurant and a coffee house."

According to Litka, alcoholism is a big problem in Modesto. "It does come up a lot," she said, "mostly in one to one counsel. I refer a lot." She did say that people in her congregation don't necessarily frequent bars, which could mean that many Modesto Gays drink at home.

Last winter, Higgins, with other Gay and Lesbian friends,

approached the Stanislaus County Department of Mental Health proposing to initiate an ad hoc rap group for all alcoholics. The group that formed, she said, included Gays and non-Gays, and two counselors, one of whom was a Lesbian. After a few weeks the Lesbian counselor dropped out and was reportedly "sick," later to be declared "nonsensical." Only the male counselor remained, whom Higgins said was "nonalcoholic and non-Gay."

When I approached him one on one," Higgins said, "he flat out told me, 'I don't think your alcoholism is a real problem, and I don't think you're really Gay, and I am going to convince you of that and make you into what you really are.'"

Shortly thereafter, Higgins approached Litka about using meeting space at MCC. "When we first started, four or five people would show up every week to talk about the problem and not feel like they were being condemned or labeled." Then, attendance dropped. Higgins' commitment turned to disappointment: "I just got tired of going over to the MCC and sitting alone in the room.

"What really upsets me is that we don't have anything else," she said, "except either to call the hotline at ATP (the Alcohol Training Program) or to check in for 72 hours for observation. We definitely need some alternative for us to turn to."

Higgins now hopes to contact the Alcohol Training Program about assigning a Lesbian counselor to the Gay Alcoholics Together project. She hopes to have rap sessions back into swing within one month. ■

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Legislative Aides Plan Capitol Press Symposium

Sacramento — Aides for David Roberti, President pro tem of the State Senate and Assemblyman Art Agnos are putting together a press symposium to be held in the Capitol. The three-day event is scheduled January 20 to 22.

The planners Richard LaVoie and Cleve Jones have sent invitations to Gay press throughout the state. The purpose is to acquaint the press more closely with the legislative process.

The pair issued the following statement:

"This has been a particularly active year in the Legislature for Gay-related issues, and the variety and importance of the issues addressed in 1983 have placed unique demands upon publications and journalists serving the Gay and Lesbian community. As the 1983-84 Session enters its second year, we can anticipate an even greater need for accurate and up-to-date reporting on news from Sacramento.

Because we recognize the importance of an informed Gay community in our efforts to pass important legislation dealing with AIDS, civil rights, and

other issues, we are very pleased to invite you to attend a Capitol Symposium for the Gay Press.

This event will give representatives of the Gay press a rare opportunity to expand their working knowledge of the politi-

cal process in California and how to cover it. It will also put members of the Gay and Lesbian press in touch with valuable contacts in the Capitol, including local Gay and Lesbian activists, legislative staff, Capitol reporters and lobbyists. In addition, it will be a special opportunity for those in the Capitol to learn more about the Gay press and its role in the Gay and Lesbian community."

Jones may be reached at (415) 557-2253. ■

Santa Cruzers Protest on White Release Date

Santa Cruz Gay activists did their part in calling attention to Dan White's release from state prison.

Organizer Rich Haze was pleased with the turnout of 40 people for the Santa Cruz rally and demonstration. The crowd was equally mixed between Gay men and Lesbians. The group assembled at the Town Clock in the center of the beach city.

Haze told the noon rally, "We're saying that the criminal justice system isn't fair. There are people in jail who've gotten longer prison sentences for having marijuana in their car, and Third World people that have committed the same crime don't get the same breaks that Dan White did."

Santa Cruz's new Gay mayor John Laird also turned out. He said, "Of course we are bitter and outraged because 5 years

after this man commits murder he's free. But my message is to take this bitterness and channel it into trying to fulfill their (George's and Harvey's) dreams, where there is a democracy of participation and equality."

Haze reported that the only hassle occurred when the police asked us to refrain from blowing our whistles, because "It causes traffic problems." We refrained, and the traffic got worse! The crowd yelled and chanted instead.

The *ad hoc* committee also held a vigil from 10 AM to 4 PM on January 6.

Haze told the *Bay Area Reporter*, "It took courage to do something like this in this town, but the response was about 80% in support. Of course, we had a few jerks yell things at us, but at least they know we're here!" ■

OAKLAND

(Continued from previous page)

Avenue there either. Methinks 'twould be easier to change your posters than move an avenue and the building!

Have you seen Frumpy's "new" hairdo? He has no more curls! His hair is now short, and parted in the middle. Spouse Steve says it makes him look much younger — at least 35!

Once again the Miss \$1.98 Beauty Pageant will be held at the Lake Lounge — Sunday, January 29, at 3 PM. Lots of fun and plenty of raffles are

promised for the afternoon event.

What's happening with Danny R. in Hayward? Have you seen his classified ad in the last issue of this paper, under the "People" column? Is he playing cupid for himself — or for Rick?

"Birthington's Washday Party?" Yes, Sir! Sunday, February 19, is the day! More details later, hon!

Nothing is more quiet than the sound of my hair going gray! But, I smile anyway! Love, ■

Nez

U.C. Rights Party

The Gay and Lesbian Union of UC and the East Bay Lesbian/Gay Democratic Club announce a celebration of Lesbian and Gay Rights at UC, Saturday, January 28, Pauley Ballroom, Berkeley, from 9 PM to 1:30 AM. The dance and party, held to benefit and honor the University of California Lesbian/Gay Intercampus Network, is a celebration of long-awaited equal rights for Gay and Lesbian Students and employees of the University of California.

Last June the UC Board of Regents voted to adopt a policy prohibiting discrimination on the basis of sexual orientation. The UC personnel policy defines sexual orientation as "Heterosexuality, homosexuality, or bisexuality, by preference or practice." The adoption of the policy is the result of much work and research undertaken by the UC Lesbian/Gay Intercampus Network.

"This is our way of both recognizing what they have done and thanking them for a job well done," said EBL/GDC President Armand Boulay.

The celebration will be highlighted by comedian MC's Tom Ammiano and Marga Gomez. Admission is on a sliding scale from \$4 - \$6. Call 642-6942. ■



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BAY AREA REPORTER

ENTERTAINMENT

B.A.R. INTERVIEW

A Decade of Faaabulous Falsetto

Sylvester's Had A Ten Year Lead-Up to One Night

by Jerry De Gracia and Jon Seifer

Syvester may be a long way from the final chapters of his autobiography, but he has logged enough experiences to justifiably take a moment to reflect upon his accomplishments. He'll do this February 4 at the Castro Theatre in *One Night Only*, a musical revue revolving around his own music and that which has influenced his life.

In retrospect, Sylvester can be credited with bringing Gay entertainment out of the closet and onto the entertainment pages of America in an upfront manner that never bowed to bisexual cop-outs or meek explanations of why it was okay to be Gay.

It hasn't been easy, and there have been lots of ups and downs in his career. But the rewards have been generous, and he has no regrets about the youthful foolishness that in earlier years saw him making and spending fortunes overnight.

Sylvester calls the show a ten-year retrospective, but he's actually been recording for fourteen years. The show itself should be preceded by his own explanation of why he's producing it at the Castro Theatre.

One Night Only will be Sylvester's first major performance in San Francisco in almost two years and he has dedicated it to the Gay people of San Francisco and to a city that he loves very much. For that reason he waited for over a year for a booking in the theatre, turning down the Opera House and the Symphony Hall in order to reach the core of the community in a hassle-free environment.

In an attempt to express his emotions regarding San Francisco's unique Gay enclave and his interaction with it both as an entertainer and as a member of the Gay community, Sylvester cited Patti Labelle's lyrics, "If only you knew, how much I do, I do need you."

Sylvester's interpretation of the lyrics go beyond the literal

desire to relate and belong to the entire community. For him, they also represent a defense against the individuals who approach him in day to day life with a "Hey, girl, how ya doing" attitude, only to receive a less than enthusiastic response. He feels that while such familiarity is acceptable, it is usually reserved for one's friends and acquaintances and not for total strangers. Aside from that minor reservation concerning the casually direct manner in which certain of his fans respond to him, Sylvester — like many others — maintains a lopsided love/hate relationship with the City and isn't budging one inch from his comfortable Upper Market home.

Planning and rehearsing for the upcoming show has brought a touch of chaos to his world. Rehearsals are five days a week, four to five hours a day, and it was fascinating to observe his ability to move from one mood to another in seconds. In a telephone conversation he was hyperactively describing his cur-

rent state, "I'm fine. I'm having a nervous breakdown. I'm going to take a valium in just a minute. I've got to do a video, some pre-publicity videos, and the photo session last night was the fucking shits." Seconds later he was calmly serving juice and talking to his dog Terry, and sitting down fully composed for an interview.

But the cool, calm and content Sylvester of 1984 has been years in the making and those years involve some interesting, almost forgotten history.

SEQUINS AT NOON

Few events polarized both the Straight and Gay communities in the New York of the early '70s as the up-front Gay brashness of Sylvester and the Cockettes. Heady with the newfound feeling of liberation after the Stonewall riot of 1969, Gays established and nurtured a club scene that was to set the standard for discos in the rest of the country in the years to come.

Upon the Cockettes' much-heralded arrival, Sylvester, with his sequins and glitter and gospel-belted pipes, became an instant media star. He uprooted the so-called "beautiful people" from the tables at 21 and La Grenouille and beckoned them into their limos for the trip to a small theatre in the Bowery where they sat rapt with attention; Sylvester was an avant garde Bobby Short for the less stuffy but equally moneyed glitterati of the upper East Side, and they were enamored.

Though synonymous with the Cockettes in New York, Sylvester had left the group by the time he'd arrived. "Actually, before opening night it was The Cockettes. I was just the opening act. After opening night it became Sylvester and The Cockettes, and soon after that, Sylvester only. Because the Cockettes bombed so terribly in New York my opening act became the show's saving grace."

While the Cockettes were wined and dined for two weeks before the show, Sylvester sat in his hotel room staring at a peacock painting and a crack in the wall. He did only three shows with the Cockettes before striking out on his own with the help of his friend Peter Minturn.

His sudden eclipse of the Cockettes and the resultant media stardom played a part in opening the door of accessibility



Today's Look. (Photo: P. Bray)

and acceptability by Straights for other outwardly Gay stars and events of the time. All of a sudden it was fashionable to be Gay, and celebrities like Mick Jagger would show up at places like the old Limelight disco off Sheridan Square in Greenwich Village or at the Continental Baths, spawning ground of another Gay media star, Bette Midler.

Sylvester's One Night Only: A Ten Year Retrospective. Two shows, 8 PM and Midnight, February 4, at the Castro Theatre. Tickets are at Gramophone Records and BASS.

If the media was responsible for creating Sylvester's initial ascent to stardom, it was his talent that carried through on the promise. His sinuous falsetto combined with a broad knowledge of music from gospel and blues to jazz left New Yorkers dazed as he returned to San Francisco and then headed on to Paris and Europe with a revamped nightclub act featuring the songs of Bessie Smith, Billie Holiday, Lena Horne, and Josephine Baker. Triumph was not forthcoming, though, for Sylvester was hesitant about this American who dressed and acted outrageously, and Sylvester was resigned but happy to survive by singing jazz in small cabarets.

"So many things have happened. I've been to so many places and met so many important people in the world and it seems like it never ends," he says with a trace of wonder in his voice.

Though building a name for himself and discovering his

talent for picking the material his audience wanted to hear, financial success has been sporadic and he's been intermittently broke and depressed.

He returned from Europe in the late '70s broke and ill and moved into a little apartment on Lombard Street with his two Russian wolfhounds. "It was a funny little, awful apartment in the bottom of a garage. Oh —



"I Deal In Illusions." In a 1977 BAM magazine interview, Sylvester confided, "My fantasies are my realities." As a Cockette in 1970, Sylvester fantasized Josephine Baker onto the Palace Theatre stage.

dear, Mary — I was down, down about as low as I could go." This was after his days with Blue Thumb Records, the label on which he recorded his earliest songs with the Pointer Sisters as backup singers.

Severely in debt, having sold most of his possessions (including his prized autographed picture of Gloria Swanson), he was finally rescued by the offer of a gig which turned his life around once again.

"I got a call from the old Cabaret on Montgomery Street. They said they couldn't give me any publicity or anything but they would make an announcement in the disco that I would be coming back to sing — three shows for \$100. So I whipped up some old costumes and got my old friend Chris Flynn to play for me and, to my amazement, we packed the house. Word got out that I was back from Europe and playing jazz again and it really flipped me out. I was held over there for two years! I work-

(Continued on next page)

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(Continued from previous page)

ed myself up to \$2,000 a week in two months, singing to packed houses."

The summer of '78 found him at the Elephant Walk on Castro. "Back then you couldn't get anyone to come out of the Castro," he explained, "so I figured if they won't come to me, I'd go to them." He had a new record label (Fantasy Records) and an album with an entertaining little foot-tapper entitled "You Make Me Feel Mighty Real (Dance Disco Heat)."

"I didn't really like disco music very much. 'You Make Me Feel' was originally a ballad. I said, 'I've been going out dancing, you know, and there's this sound out, so let's try and make one of these little records and see what happens...'"

What happened, of course, was an international smash that had them burning up the dance floors from San Francisco to Paris.

"I've been going out dancing, you know, and there's this sound out, so let's try and make one of these little records and see what happens..."

"We just put the record out and didn't think very much of it, or even that it was going to be successful at all. But we were working. I wasn't starving by any means and we thought, 'Let's just see what this one will do.'"

Six months earlier he had attended a disco convention in New York, where he was informed upon his arrival that he wasn't "important enough." He was stuck at a table in the back watching disco darlings Donna Summer, The Village People, and Grace Jones collect kudos.

"There were all these big stars, making millions, and they were all sitting on this dais and winning all these awards and they told me that I wasn't good enough, big enough, or anything enough to even be there, let alone sit close. But I said, 'Someday I'll be there. I'm not even worried about it.' Well, a week later the Step II album came out with 'You Make Me Feel' on it and the next thing I knew I was overwhelmed with the success of that record. I was not ready! I didn't know what to do... it was so funny coming back from a nine-week tour of Europe and having mobs of people there to meet me when I got off the plane — the success of the single had preceded me."

Fighting hard not to laugh the proverbial last laugh, Sylvester once again attended the disco convention, this time under different circumstances.

"I was escorted in by the president of the convention," he recalled, laughing. "I was spread across all the magazines and there I am emceeing with Cher, and every category to possibly get, I got, but remembering all the time that six months ago I was hardly allowed in. The same thing happened to me in Paris. The first time I went, they threw me out because I was too wild and too outrageous; when I came back they lit the Eiffel Tower in my honor and gave me the Golden Antennae award that's only been given to three Americans."

As if events weren't overwhelming enough, Sylvester's career was intensified when the lighting technician of Cabaret confessed he played the synthesizer and suggested they fool around with a couple of tunes. His name was Patrick Cowley.

What evolved from the initial meeting of the pair was a melding of talent and timing that produced some of the most danceable, steamy music to come out of San Francisco or anywhere else, a tour of Europe and South

America with Cowley, and a triumphant return to San Francisco. It also brought quarrels with Fantasy Records, which informed Sylvester it wasn't "chic" to be Gay or sing disco music.

"They told me they were changing my image. So I had a recording session and I went into the studio, into the lobby of the record company, wearing a purple negligee from the all-male production of *Mame* and a blonde wig. The president of the company came down and said, 'I'm spending all this money to change your image! What are you doing?' I said, 'You're changing my image... I'm not.' I walked into the studio with rhinestone earrings flying and just being a queen all the time, in open defiance of it all, bringing porno magazines to the studio with boys carrying on and stuff like that. I completely outraged them until they put me on suspension."

Marty Bleman, and found his fears groundless. Sylvester was glad to do the album, and the result was probably the most high-powered, energetic lp in Sylvester's discography.

All I Need was released in 1982 and contained multiple hits — "Hard Up," "Don't Stop," "Be With You," and the previously released single "Do You Wanna Funk." The album took Sylvester onto the Billboard Hot 100, and he once again found lots of cash for such extravagances as Russian wolfhounds and imported champagne. Not only was he again riding the crest of popularity in clubs and on the radio, but he was the first Black artist to have a video shown on MTV.

Call Me, Sylvester's current album on the Megatone label, moves from the intense dance/rock flavor of *All I Need* to a broader range of musical styles and vocally presents Sylvester in a coat of many colors. His upcoming concert is similarly geared toward a variety of musical styles, reflecting the musical influences in his life from gospel to jazz.

★ ★ ★

Today Sylvester appears relaxed and comfortable with his success as he readies his material and costumes for the Castro Theatre celebration, the first live performances in the house in forty years.

Sylvester divides his time (and dogs) between residences in New York, San Francisco, and a cabin at the Russian River, and is feeling confident and secure in his renewed alliance with the Gay community.

As he shuffled about his art-deco strown condo, readying wigs and applying endless amounts of sequins to his costumes, Sylvester mentioned that the near future will find him auditioning for the Broadway production of *La Cage aux Folles*, rehearsing vigorously for *One Night Only* — and immediately afterward taking a vacation in Mexico.

From Cockette days through Ethel Waters, Billie Holiday, Aretha Franklin, blues, gospel, rock and dance hits to his current position as the musical Crowned Head of the Castro, Sylvester's falsetto fantasy has never played him false. ■

J. De Gracia
J. Seifer



Outgoing Diana. The Sylvester look for 1974 was particularly glamorous — he gave a farewell concert at Bimbo's and headed for Paris. They already had Josephine Baker, though, and after two years the Bay Area Baker headed home.

Sex is the Subject

The stereotyped image of the musty "Author's Reading" is sure to be punctured when Small Press Traffic bookstore offers its second program this month. Bruce Boone and Susie Bright will present their work, and both deal with sex.

"My poems are hardly Alfred Lord Tennyson," said Susie Bright. "They are free verse, without rhyme. The art to my poetry is how I want the words to sound in my mouth and in my readers' mind. I want it to be lyrical, like music."

"I've developed a reputation for sexually explicit work, and in a way I feel put up against the wall — people expect everything to be porno-packed."

"There is an emphasis on sexual issues in my writing. It causes people to react with a lot of emotion — some people cry and others think it's pornographic. For instance, in one poem I describe a couple on the dance floor. One drags her partner about and cuts her clitoris with a razor. The synopsis is extreme, but it sounds like waltzing in the poem."

"I debate the unknown quantity of violence in sex, and the issues of S&M, which has many



Susie Bright (Photo: H.L. Cottrell)

Let's All Be Dolly



Carol Channing (second from right) wins the prize for Dolly Gallagher Levi impersonations, with Grand Czarinas Sweetlips and Michelle (L.) and Archduchess Anastasia filling out the ranks. The event was Char's Coronation in 1982, but don't despair — there's still a market for Dolly Doubles. In honor of its "Hello, Dolly" campaign, the Irwin Memorial Blood Bank is sponsoring a *Hello, Dolly* Look-a-like contest. The best look-a-like will win dinner and weekend accommodations for two courtesy of the Hyatt Regency. First runner-up will win tickets to *Forbidden Broadway*, and that show's "Carol Channing" will entertain at the contest itself. It's Saturday, January 21 at 270 Masonic (at Turk). To register, call 567-6400, ex. 426 or 427. And then Dolly up! (Photo: Rink)

Caught In the Act



Garrett Collins, baritone, former soloist and performer with both the San Francisco Gay Men's Chorus and, more recently, the Pacific Lesbian and Gay Singers, will give a recital of arias, lieder, and songs by Handel, Schubert, Strauss, Faure and others. Accompanist Allen Blasdale has achieved his principal reputation as a virtuous organist performing primarily on the west coast and in England. He has, however, developed a no less distinguished reputation as accompanist for both vocal soloists and choral organizations. He is a former accompanist for both the San Francisco Gay Men's Chorus and the San Francisco Lesbian and Gay Men's Community Chorus.

These two artists will appear together on Sunday, January 22 at 5 PM at the First Congregational Church at the corner of Post and Mason Streets. The \$4 donation requested at the door will benefit the First Congregational Church's organ fund.

faces.

"I'll also read several very short stories, and some poems my father wrote. We exchange work, and discuss our commonalities and intellectual sympathies about sex, which are frequently the same. Some of the poems I'll read will be included in *On Our Backs*, the Lesbian sexual entertainment magazine which will issue its first edition on April 1."

Coincidentally, author Bruce Boone's reading will also concern aspects of S&M. Boone has two books of narratives to his published credit, *My Walk with Bob*, in which he and Robert Gluck converse about their recently ended relationships and thus indirectly address loss and its meaning, and *Century of Clouds*, a coming out story



Bruce Boone (Photo: Rink)

which challenges people's pre-set ideas.

"I call them narratives instead of fiction because I use 90% real names and locations," said Boone. "They're meditexts; there's a drawing back to allow meditation upon the text."

"I also wrote *La Fontaine* with Bob Gluck. It's a very creative mistranslation — an alteration — of the fables, and I'm the guest editor of the next issue of *Soup*.

"I'm finishing a work called *Carmen*, and I'll read a section of it at Small Press Traffic. It relates an S&M pick-up which happened to me."

"I started *Carmen* after I was asked why I never wrote about sex. It's all sex, lots of S&M, sex and power. I developed a 'Carmen Principle' which is so shiningly, brilliantly negative that it's nearly positive. It's a principle of great delight, so much against current practices that it's ecological. Also kind of nasty, but like the snake biting its tail, it ties into natural cycles: meaning death and destruction are good, because they continue the cycle."

"In sex, the Carmen Principle validates power, as opposed to the Politically Correct person inside us who wants sex to be an extension of friendship and not a question of desire. Carmen, above all, wants to have fun. Carmen is a swirl of skirts, but also black leather."

"The book itself is not quite finished. This reading is a preview."

Bruce Boone and Susie Bright present an hour of their works on Wednesday, January 25, 8 PM, at Small Press Traffic, 3841-B 24th Street. Admission is \$2.

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STAGE

Basement Finesse

by Mike Hippel

When I was seven years old, I produced, directed, and starred in a neighborhood production of *Sleeping Beauty* which became the talk of the town for years. It was also the apogee of my theatrical career, for soon thereafter I found other ways to be a center of attention, and I left the theater for good.

Marc Huestis, the director of *Naked Brunch*, was exactly the same kind of kid, I am sure, but fortunately for San Francisco, he is still producing, directing, and appearing in his own shows — shows which have the heart and enthusiasm of neighborhood basement productions but a good deal more finesse. He's most widely known for his films, *Unity*, *Transfusion*, *Excommunication*, and *Whatever Happened to Susan Jane*, a feature-length film about the birth of the underground New Wave scene in San Francisco that has been his most accessible and popular film. Now there is *Naked Brunch*, not a film but a live soap opera featuring the Alexis Carrington Colby Players, which Huestis is presenting in bi-monthly segments at the 181 Club in the heart of the Tenderloin.

Naked Brunch, set in San Francisco's North Beach during the Beatnik era, is the story of ingenue Betty VandeCamp, who has come to San Francisco in search of her long-lost mother only to find that her mother is the notorious drug peddler Nurse Junie May August. Nurse June is an habitue of the infamous Cafe LaRue, the refuge for the Beat and the Beaten that is run by Betty's erstwhile Lesbian benefactor, Madame LaRue. It is this cafe that LaRue's "dear, dear sister" Constance Mertz, the famous burger heiress, wants to transform into the world headquarters of Mertz Burgers. In order to do this she must first have Madame LaRue declared insane and thrown into the loony bin. Enter Russian ex-spies Dr. Boris Beatinoff and Natasha to aid Mertz in her nefarious scheme. Confused? Don't be. The plot is hardly as convoluted as that of *Dynasty*, and it is a hell of a lot more fun.

Naked Brunch is a delight. It is a bizarre and wonderful amalgamation of old movies, late-night TV shows, grade B musicals, and Saturday-morning cartoons.

Huestis candidly admits stealing outright dialogue from shows such as *Mildred Pierce*, *Caged*, and *High School Confidential*. Many of the characters seem familiar too, from the stereotypical bull dyke jail matron, Lez...uh, Luz ("I'm gonna lock you in your cage tonight, I'm gonna lock

you tramps up really tight, And we'll rock and roll together through the night"), to the poor, addled, drug-addicted, ex-chanteuse, Zizi LaFrance ("I'm bored when I'm adored, I'm blasé").

What Huestis cannot have purloined, however, is the unique group of performers he has assembled for this show. Notable among the cast (but who is not?) is a bevy of some of my favorite drag queens — Tippy, Miss X, Sylvana Nova, and — attention please — Doris Fish. (Love those dentines, girl.) There are "real" women as well — Sandahl Hebert, for instance, Ann Block of *Susan Jane* fame, and Janice Sukiatis of the Angels of Light. There is even a man or two in the cast, including Huestis himself, who cannot resist the temptation to cast himself in the role of the Adorable Young Bellhop, which

who hang out in front make a solo outing a hazardous event. Furthermore, the performers are basically dedicated amateurs, which gives much of the production its charm but also has its drawbacks. Sylvana Nova is on vacation this month, for instance, so her character, Zizi LaFrance, was conveniently asked to appear on the Jack Paar show for the duration. Word has it that next month Ms. Fish may be unavailable, so God only knows what will happen to Constance Mertz and her burger empire. Finally, this second episode was not as polished or as rehearsed as the first. Musical numbers were fewer — a shame. A couple of the dance numbers were repetitive. (But then, why not? Tippy does a Beatnik bump and grind — rather, a roll and grovel — that deserves — no, demands repetition.)



Instant Replay. Celebrate New Year's once again with the *Naked Brunch* gang. The live soap opera, in its second hair-raising episode, parties on Jan. 20. (Photo: B. Moore)

gives him the chance to take off (almost) all his clothes. (Nice body, Marc. I'd take my clothes off too.) Nearly as much fun as the cast is the audience. Huestis' productions always seem to attract the kind of crowd I came to San Francisco for. Mustachioed muscleboys sit next to kids with pointy hair. Outrageous drag queens mingle with "hip" straight couples.

Unfortunately, the production is not without its drawbacks. The sound system is atrocious. Sound effects overpower the actors, who cannot be heard. The location is pretty much a disaster also. The club is far too small to handle the crowds that besiege it, and the drug peddlers and street people

In spite of these relatively minor flaws, *Naked Brunch* is truly superb, the underground event of 1984, and I highly recommend that you drop whatever you are doing Friday night, January 20th and fly to the repeat (and last) performance of *Naked Brunch*, Part Two. Then you, too, will be able to wonder, "Will Betty succumb to the evil advances of the jailhouse matron? Will Constance Mertz really cover the tabletops of Cafe LaRue with formica? What kind of drugs does Nurse June push, anyway? And where does Doris Fish get her wigs?" ■

Naked Brunch, Episode II
181 Club (81 Eddy)
Friday, Jan. 20, 10:30 PM

Waiting For

by Bernard Spunberg

Cultures clash in Theatre of Yugen's production of Samuel Beckett's *Waiting for Godot*, currently onstage at Theatre Artaud. Theatre of Yugen, directed by Yuriko Doi, performs both Western and Japanese dramas in the Kyogen style, the comedic counterpart of Noh. While Noh tends to spiritual, tragic themes, Kyogen deals with common human traits such as greed and vanity. Both Noh and Kyogen express character through codified rituals and conventions.

Yuriko Doi has mounted her production with elaborate costumes, masks, and movements that, though ritualistic, are still natural enough for audiences unfamiliar with Kyogen conventions to understand immediately. She also projects a series of beautiful slides created by Jack Carpenter upstage of fabric arranged to suggest huge distances. The slides evoke not only varying qualities of light but also shifting psychological states. While never drawing attention to themselves, the slides subtly and poetically generate mood and atmosphere.

Waiting for Godot is about ordinary guys caught in an existential dilemma. They sym-

bolize the entire human race, and their ordinariness must have monumental proportions equal to their monumentality as symbols. Richard Benesovich, resembling Rudolph Nureyev, and Harvey Sacks, a nice Jewish boy, lack the depth and weight in the lead roles which the play requires for maximum impact. When Sacks is tired and hungry, his fatigue and hunger must come from the core of his being. Sacks' whining is that of a child who complains constantly. His ceaseless energy is monotonous and undercuts the cumulative effect. Benesovich does not distract and irritate with overacting, but he, too, lacks maturity.

(Continued on next page)

STAGE

From Booze to Pews

by Bernard Spunberg

Pop, puff, steam, grind, or drown in cream — no matter what you do, it's still corn. The Magic Theatre is currently presenting *Ed Bullins' City Preacher* in a production finer than the play deserves.

Billy Hutton portrays a Harlem preacher's son partying his way through the capitals of Europe. When Hutton's father suffers a stroke, playtime is rudely interrupted. Hutton returns to find family and friends anxiously awaiting his ascension to his father's pulpit, but Hutton will have none of it. His

commitment to wine, women, and song is unshakeable.

Will Hutton mend his sinful ways? Will his feet grow to fill his father's shoes? Will the pure young woman he seduced and abandoned forgive, forget, and assist him on the righteous path? O ye of little faith! Hast thou never heard of divine intervention?

Writhing in moral and alcoholic agony, Hutton hears his dead father's voice. Celestial static mars the connection, but the message is clear enough. "Who will take my place?" Not Hutton. Voices or no voices, he



*Playboy or Pulpit? Billy Hutton (l.), as Aaron Price in *City Preacher* is driven to drink when he can't accept the career expected of him. (Photo: A. Nomura)*

TONE DEAF TONE DEAF TONE DEAF

Ten Year Theme Dominates Cable Car Music Awards

JERRY DE GRACIA

The nominees for the 1983 Cable Car Music Awards for Outstanding Club Recording and Outstanding Contribution by a Recording Artist are dominated by a unique theme — ten years in the recording business.

Meg and Cris at Carnegie Hall is a musical celebration of the tenth anniversary of Olivia Records, the predominantly women's music label. On a similar note, Sylvester, who is celebrating his ten years in the recording business in February, has been nominated for two songs in the Best Club Recording category and for his latest album, *Call*

Me in the Outstanding Contribution by a Recording Artist category.

The nominees for Outstanding Club Recording are:

"Don't Stop" — Sylvester (Megatone Records)

"Band of Gold" — Sylvester (Megatone Records)

"Steppin' Out" — Modern Rocketry (Megatone Records)

"Lisa" — Lisa (Moby Dick Records)

"The Right Man" — The Units (Uproar Records)

The nominees for Outstanding Contribution by a Recording Artist are:

lenc, Honegger and others; and Jacqueline Fontyn, winner of numerous composition awards, including the Grand Prix de Rome.

The program of four pieces consists of Arrieu's Woodwind

Women's Philharmonic Presents Chamber Concert

The Bay Area Women's Philharmonic, 1983 second prize winner of the American Society of Composers, Authors and Publishers (ASCAP) award for adventuresome programming in contemporary music, continues to feature works by historical and contemporary women composers in its third performing season.

The season begins with a chamber music concert of French women composers on Friday, January 27, 8:00 PM at the First Unitarian Church in San Francisco. The program features works dating from the mid-1800's to the present, including works by a few of France's foremost women composers, such as Louise Farrenc, one of the few women professors of the National Conservatory in the mid-1800's; Claude Arrieu, knighted in the prestigious French Legion of Honor for her composition work; Germaine Tailleferre, the only woman member of "Les Six," which also included Milhaud, Pou-

Eros on the Air

Two renowned erotica experts, John F. Karr (Associate Editor and "Karrnal Knowledge" columnist of the *Bay Area Reporter*) and columnist Ron Bluestein, (a.k.a. Ronnett), will be on hand for a listener call-in on "Fruit Punch: Gay Radio" at 10 PM, Wednesday, January 25. Fruit Punch airs every Wednesday night at 10 on

The FOG Presents Opera Discussion

The Fraternal Order of Gays (The FOG) will present a lecture on the opera *Lucrezia Borgia*, written by Gaetano Donizetti.

The lecture will be presented by FOG member Brian Newhouse. Brian is a graduate stu-

dent at UC Berkeley and is presently working on his doctorate in Music History.

The cost to attend this lecture is \$4 for FOG members, \$5 for guests. It will be held Friday, January 20, 8 p.m., at 934 Ortega St., San Francisco. For additional information write to The FOG, 934 Ortega St., S.F., CA 94122, or call 566-6227. ■

naughty and nice girlfriends. Mujahid, Charles Branklyn, and Allen Littles breathe life into a newspaper editor, a communist, and a musician — stock characters all. The role of the preacher's son is long and exhausting, but Billy Hutton responds creatively to every shift of mood and focus.

City Preacher is a Black play. The characters are involved with transcending oppression, and Gay audiences can

identify with their struggle for political power and personal identity. But it's the process of acquisition of power and identity that are left out of the drama.

Church groups may find *Preacher Man* meaningful and rewarding. Less religious audiences will have trouble accepting the 23rd Psalm as the key to salvation. ■

City Preacher
Magic Theatre
Through February 19; 441-8822

begin to grate quickly. Both North and Hodgson wear masks throughout.

Yuriko Doi's production of *Waiting for Godot* is visually beautiful but dramatically out of focus. Her choice of frankly Western actors in Kyogen costumes undercuts and distorts the drama. ■

B. Spunberg

Waiting for Godot
Theatre Artaud
Through January 29; 621-7797



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FILM CLIPS

Basileus Quartet

Stringing Along

Once or twice a year I'll give myself over to a subtle, intelligent, civilized film that plays gently on the emotions. This year it's *Basileus Quartet*.

When people have devoted most of their 50 or 60 years to playing music of the 18th and 19th centuries, coming into the 20th can be something of a shock. That's what happens to the three surviving members of the Basileus Quartet when their leader dies and they opt to take on a gifted young violinist instead of breaking up the act.

In their 30 years together, "the fraternity of the quartet" has kept the men from leading individual lives — or having to. Life on the road was a great excuse for avoiding attachments, especially for the Gay musician

(Michel Vitold) who has passed through midlife without fulfilling any of his Proustian fantasies.

The youthful catalyst they call "Edo," who awakens them to life's possibilities, is played by Pierre Malet, identical twin of Laurent Malet who was seen in *Querelle*. Though he doesn't do any extraordinary acting, he has an intriguing James Dean quality; looking at him would make the film worthwhile if it had nothing else to offer.

"We have incurable Edoitis," says one of the older men, (Could his Italian word "Edonismo" be a play on "hedonism"?). Indeed, while only one of Edo's three new "fathers" desires him physically (without knowing it), they all court him in a manner reminiscent of Joe Orton's *Entertaining Mr. Sloane*. Edo, perhaps unfortunately, is heterosexual, and shares nothing with them but his women, drugs, philosophy, and musical skill.

With a happier ending than we have a right to expect, *Basileus Quartet* has a lot to say about aging, not all of it pleasant. One bitter old man counsels that once you pass 60, only hate and disgust keep you alive; and one message you can take from the story is that if anything makes you more aware of your mortality than the death of an old friend, it's the life in a young one.



Audition. All three members of the Basileus Quartet enjoy listening to Pierre Malet, but one of them (Michel Vitold, upper right) gets off on watching him, too.

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One Night Stands

Films of Gay Interest This Coming Week

by Michael Benzry

Friday, January 20: (Strand) Polyester, with its Odorama sniff 'n' view gimmick, is better than it smells, and presents the fruits of the American Dream: Divine and Tab Hunter. Desperate Living is a desperate fantasy of crime and sex ruled by Edith Massey.

Monday, January 23: (Strand) Gay

If the Gay character is not politically correct in terms of positive screen imagery, he's an

excellent example of the danger of a life in the closet — the first breath of fresh air that gets in there can be fatal.

The actors do a passable job of faking their musical performances, and the soundtrack (Beethoven, Schubert, Ravel, etc.) is as much a treat for the ears as the glamorous European settings are for the eye.

From an educational standpoint I learned that "spinelli" is the Italian word for a joint of the smoking variety.

So *Basileus Quartet* will please your eyes, ears, mind, and heart and Pierre Malet may stimulate some other organs. What more do you want from a movie?

(Clay) S. Warren

SPORTS

WED. COMMUNITY BOWLING

MICHAEL HAGGETT

Same Balls, New Names

The results of the season's first half of bowling are in. To use an old cliché that I'm sure will make a few people sick, the cream rose to the top. Congratulations to the Mike's Ice Cream team for sweeping their way to victory January 11. Thanks to the bowling that night of R. Catterfeld and C. Clevenger, the rest of the team — M. Bulawit, E. Rinne and myself — were able to squeak by Stephen Ross Associates for the championship. Randy and Craig don't get too big of heads, at least this kind, and remember we all bowled well at some time to get us into the playoffs. I want to make it clear to the rest of the league that Mike's didn't win because of the league officers on the team. We were rotten!

The battle for second place of the half is not over yet. Three teams, Stephen Ross, Image Leathers and the Pin Heads ended up tied. A rolloff of three

games will be scheduled in the future to determine who wins. This playoff will be quite significant as the second place team in the first half bowls the second place team of the second half for the third place trophy. If this sounds confusing, it's only because the first place teams of each half rolloff for the first and second place trophies. All we have to do is figure out a day for the second place playoff. This could prove to be quite difficult. We have to find a time when Jack is not in the kitchen, Nancy Reagan is not on the tube, Cheryl doesn't forget, Princess Lea is not off doing the Hula, Randy isn't trying to get off and Danielle, Thom, David and everyone else can fit into their busy schedules. Thank goodness we have thirteen weeks to do it!

The individual leaders at the end of the first half after fifteen weeks are as follows: High

Scratch Series, J. Barnes, 606; High Scratch Game, R. Tiri, 243; High Handicap Series, J. Markey, 700; and High Handicap Game, R. Roginski, 290.

A team that last week changed its name from Just Fun to Chiquita's Bananas holds the High Scratch Game 901 and series 2482. I guess they decided to try a little implied advertising in order to have some fun. Speaking of name changes, it is rumored that GMCC might become Nana's Whores, the Gutter Girls and really Sticky Fingers Bakery and our President is known as The Flirt.

First Half Final Standings

1. Mike's Ice Cream	42	18
2. Image Leather	38	22
3. Pinheads	38	22
4. Stephen Ross Asso.	38	22
5. Chiquita's Bananas	36	24
6. GGMCC-Nana's Whores	33	27
7. Station Masters	33	27
8. Stud City	33	27
9. Brunswick Beauties	32	28
10. High Gear	30	30
11. Ballers	28	32
12. Warlocks	28	32
13. Jugs Liquors	27	33
14. Mirage	27	33
15. GGMCCII (Mxd Emtns)	24	36
16. Sticky Fingers Bakery	24	36
17. Pacific Area Fire Alarm	23	37

From Castro to Christopher

Photography by Nicholas Blair



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RIVETS

Pec of the Month

TOM ROGERS

Those of you who've made your New Year's resolutions and are whipping along the fast lane toward personal perfection may, from time to time, weaken from the challenge of that pursuit. (After all, we've learned from experience that it isn't easy being perfect.) Even worse is that during those weakened moments, the pursuit of perfection may begin to look like a pointless exercise. In fact, there's a (deadly) rationalization that often lures victims of weak moments into a permanent state of lassitude. Under the guise of logic, this rationalization would have us believe that since perfection is an ideal state, it is by definition unachievable.

"So," one may ask oneself, "why am I knocking myself out?"

Well, before you throw your list of resolutions into the fireplace, allow me to propose what I think are two answers to that question. First, as a leatherman, you are committed to the emulation of masculine perfection. Second, you are pursuing perfection so that you can win contests.

Oh sure! Go ahead and laugh. It won't change the fact, however, that there are very few among us who haven't participated in some kind of contest. Whether it was in grade school for the best Valentine's Day card, or in a bar for the exclusive attention of Mr. Right, we've all become involved in contests in some way.

"Kid's stuff!" you scoff, resolutely wadding your list of resolutions into a ball. "I can't be bothered."

I think, however, that I have some reasons that may change your mind. Since perfection is a state where *everything* works well for us, we are talking basically about achieving a lofty level of survival.

Therefore, contests, to vary-

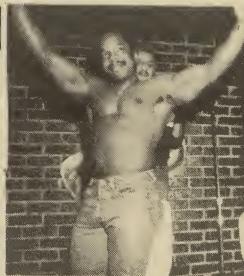
ing degrees of validity, are not only events we use to measure our progress along the way to perfection, but opportunities for one to prove his ability to survive in some way more successfully than his fellow contestants.

While the best possible competition one can have is oneself (depending upon one's standards), nothing is quite so satisfying as general agreement from one's peers that one has achieved a level of perfection. Symbolic of the survival orientation of contests, peer agreement brings not only a nod of recognition, but one or more prizes that are generally considered valuable to survival. The most popular, although not the only, contest prize is money.

I could illustrate the impor-



Cash Register. Clayton stuffs the currency he won in the Bar Chest Contest into his pants. Strange — you'd think he'd want to put it somewhere safe. (Photo: R. Pruzan)



Jimmy flexes at the Arena Bare Chest Contest. (Photo: Rink)

tance of contests in our lives by pointing out those which we'll all experience this year, such as that for the U.S. Presidency, those that comprise the Olympic Games, and those that lead to the Super Bowl. Closer to my heart, though, are the Mr. Drummer Contest and the International Mr. Leather Contest. The last two, at a glance, appear to be tits and ass contests. A number of other qualities essential to leather perfection are considered, however. Those qualities include allegiance to health, being extroverted, socially aware, having well-balanced attitudes, being devoted enough to the leather lifestyle to openly advocate and represent it, and having a body that illustrates masculine magnificence at its peak. To win, all of these qualities must be displayed successfully enough to inspire judges and audience to salivate and/or cheer on the spot. Qualities successfully enough displayed to win top prize become a standard against which other leathermen can measure themselves, and against which the winner will be measured everywhere he goes during a minimum period of his one-year tenure. Like the rest of us, he's expected to get even better. Colt Thomas, for example, the International Mr. Leather of 1983, meets all of the above requirements, including continuing improvement which results from his pursuit of a medical degree.

Since it's not possible to simply snap our fingers and find ourselves at the top, we generally assign ourselves a step-by-step schedule. This schedule might include that almost-discarded list of New Year's resolutions. Another part of that schedule might include attending or participating in a small local contest designed to grade men on one or more of the same qualities considered in the national contest.

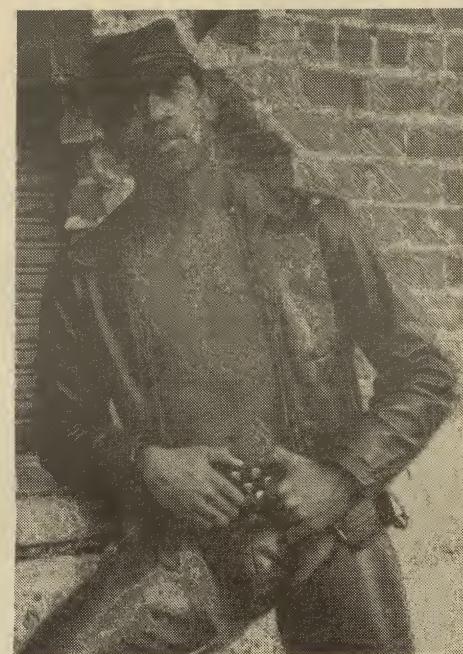
Although there are several such contests South of Market, and they are all valid for this function, an excellent example is the Bare Chest Contest that last week captured the attention of a big crowd of leathermen at the Arena. It was the second of a total of twelve such contests planned for the year, and it drew the participation of ten men willing to set their pecs out for view and "special attention," as Arena Manager Paul Estes might say. Winners of this monthly contest will have their tits displayed photographically in a 1985 calendar, in which they will be identified as Mr. January, Mr. February, etc. Said winners also receive \$100; so that they don't feel too bad, men who come in second get \$50.

(Continued on next page)

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Putting Up a Good Front. Mark, Bill, Steve, Zoltan and Clayton put their tits on trial at the Arena. Gay men may be fighting to earn civil rights, but they certainly aren't breast bereft. (Photo: Rink)

(Continued from previous page)

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were adroitly stripped verbally during an on-stage interview before baring their chests physically. Quizzed for their motives as contestants, most said "for the money," but were willing to abandon that reason for "exposure" when Marcus proposed to them that it could also be their reason for competing in the contest. The only man who stuck to his original reason — "for the money" — won the contest. He was also the most extroverted. His name is Steve Green, and he hails from Kent, England, although he's an Australian citizen. The man who won second place is Clayton Araujo, originally from Brazil, whose smooth, silky skin combined with an attitude that displayed the fun side of Latin machismo.

And lest you think that winning this contest has no potential for pushing you along to bigger and better things, talk to Mike Merriot, winner of the Mr. January spot. He went from the Arena to win the Mr. CMC Carnival title, and the Arena announced last week that they intend to sponsor him as a candidate for International Mr. Leather this May in Chicago.

All of this is to say hooray for the Arena. For those leathermen willing to take it seriously, the Arena is providing So/M a positive (and entertaining) message. It has become the place where leathermen who are proud of their bodies can congregate. That's important, because the skin under all that hide is where it begins.

PLUGS

Jim Cvitanich told me from inside the giant bottle of Bud he wore around So/M Saturday night that Chaps has generously donated the money needed to rent the Victoria Theater for the night of January 23, the date of his Men Behind Bars production. This promises to be one hell of a show, with bartenders and other stars in San Francisco as the cast, an orchestra in the pit, and Cvitanich as the director. Besides being an evening of entertainment, all net revenues will go to benefit AIDS patients. Tickets are available for \$10 from both Headlines stores. The theater doors will be opened at 6:30 for first-come-first-seated audience members. The Victoria Theater is located at 2961 16th Street, between Mission and South Van Ness. The theater has a bar, and cocktails will be available. An "After Benefit Party" will be held at Chaps with a surprise feature which I've sworn not to divulge. It promises to be fun.



Olivs On Parade. Perhaps those Men Behind Bars have been there too long . . . dancing olives? Jim Cvitanich is inside the Budweiser bottle. Nobody is inside the garbage can left, and the costumes were created by Ed McMillan and donated by the Castro Station for the Shanti Project benefit show scheduled for January 23. (Photo: R. Pruzan)

★ ★ ★

The Pacific Coast Rodeo and Horsemen's Association (PCRHA) is having a Barn Dance January 22 from 5 to 11 PM at the Rawhide for those of you cowboys into kicking up your heels. A \$1 cover charge gets you in for a free buffet, cheap beer (\$2.50 a pitcher), and

dancing. PCRHA's Secretary-Treasurer "Buzz" Bazard says the club is trying to raise funds for some planned trailrides and playdays, as well as for their proposed participation in the '86 Gay Olympics.

★ ★ ★

Hooray for Michael Namath, bartender at the S.F. Eagle, who turned an armed robbery at that bar last week into a relatively campy experience. Two Black men, one brandishing a sawed-off shotgun from his position at the top of the bar, the other a knife, wanted everything Namath and his ten customers had of value. Before they got away with everyone's money and jewelry, Namath, arms akimbo, asked testily, "Why are you doing this to me? I haven't done anything to you!"

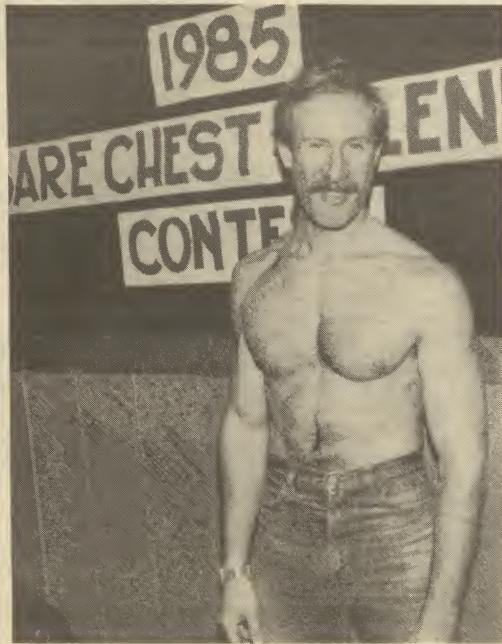
clubs. Members must be a rider (or buddy), among other requirements to establish interest in the sport. Bob Merl (Watering Hole) is the new President; Bill Wood is the Road Captain.

The SFGDI's, celebrating their 10th anniversary, have slated an invitational Cocktail Party and Buffet Dinner for January 21. Congratulations, gentlemen.

BIKE WATCH

I'm delighted to report that the two motorcycles stolen from Touring Gear Unlimited's facilities a couple of weeks ago have been recovered. Our men-in-blue's alertness was on duty, the culprits caught, and the bikes recovered.

Watch this space in my next column for a comparative rating



Australia's Loss. First Place Winner of the Arena's Bare Chest Contest left Auckland for Gawkland where he grins and bares it. (Photo: Rink)

★ ★ ★

Mr. S Products is having their Fifth Annual Black Sale to offer leathermen bargains that will reduce the cost of stocking their playrooms and wardrobe. Mr. S Products' Annual Black Sale is such a good idea, in fact, that Image Leathers is advertising a black sale too. A Taste of Leather is also having a sale, and Jim Hillis, owner of Leath-

erWorld, has announced that the last of his merchandise is on sale before he closes his doors forever later this week.

T. Rogers

Karl's Calendar

Saturday, 1/21: Capricorn Star Party. The Stables, 9pm-2am; food and drink specials.

Sunday, 1/22: Super Bowl Party. Febe's, 9am-2pm; food and fun. Super Bowl Party. The Stables, 9am-2pm; draft 25 cents.

Monday, 1/23: Eats at the SF Eagle. 6:30-7, \$3, full baked ham dinner. Men Behind Bars. Citywide bartenders' variety show. Victoria Theater (16th St. between Mission and South Van Ness), 8pm, \$10; tickets at BASS or Headlines.

Wednesday, 1/25: Dinner Before Dynasty. Chaps, 6-9pm, food \$3; TV at 9pm.

Imperial Support Auction. Rich & Remy's first function. Ramrod, 8pm; donations to pay off campaign debts to Michael Bowman (Ramrod) or Trixie (New Bell). Dynasty Party. Febe's, 9pm; Myra's hot dogs.

Thursday, 1/26: Open Meeting. Bar-bary Coasters MC. Febe's, 8:30pm.

Karl Stewart

Movement Music

Lenny Anderson, folksinger, songwriter, and activist, returns to Modern Times to sing more of his original folksongs, including "The Ballad of Dan White" January 21, 8:30 PM, Modern Times Bookstore, 968 Valencia, 282-9246.

avec RONNETTTE

Ronnett's Epistle to San FranciSkins

The Foreskin Comes Out of the Closet

Foreskin
by Bud Berkeley and Joe Tiffenbach
PO Box 26011, SF, 94126; \$13.95, paper

The book under review is called *Foreskin*. Not *My Friend Foreskin* or *My First Foreskin*, though both would be appropriate. Not *I Remember Foreskin*, *Foreskin on My Mind*, or *Forever Foreskin*. Not that these titles are any more fanciful than some from Mr. Berkeley's own bibliography, such as "Cosmetic Cocklift," "Penile Plunder," "The Foreskin Finder," or the extremely touching "A Foreskin is Missing," which ABC, hot on the heels of its greatest success, is anxious to transform into a television movie with Pia Zadora in the title role. In fact, word has reached this reporter that Mr. Berkeley's book has been snatched up by Universal, to be released under the title of "A Separate Piece."

Pity I'm just joking — today's pornographers should be as imaginative as the anonymous letter writers who have shared their experiences with Berkeley and his friends of the uncut. These selections are from Part II, "Talking About the American Foreskin":

I am a park ranger. One summer I was stationed at a high altitude camp . . . The altitude . . . the dry summer . . . the fact that we were on horseback all day perspiring under our hot uniforms . . . most of the rangers with whom I was stationed came down with chapped cockheads . . . It got so bad that during our long, lonesome summer evenings . . . we would all pull out our dicks and start scratching on them . . . We even tried lip ointment but that burned so bad that a couple of guys got hard-ons . . . The only guy not affected was the only one of us who was uncut. He was a brawny Swede from Minnesota, a brawny guy who read all the time and wasn't the slightest bit concerned about our itchy dicks. He just read while we scratched meat.

I've got this hunky young jock in love with my arm. I work out at the Y after work and he is there at the same time every Thursday. He has never said a word to me . . . His husky pole . . . is covered with the most luxurious, veined foreskin I have ever seen. Even when it is hard the skin comes to a point a good inch in front, and yet it slides back so easily . . . He never looks me in the eye and as my pumping gets him to breathing faster he begins to lean over and kiss my arm; he really slurps up and down my arm. The thing that gets me excited the most is the noise his inch overhang makes as I beat it . . . snap, snap, snap . . . It drives me wild. Then he pops. Never says a word. I split quick. It's been going on weekly for about a year. I don't think he's gay because he wears a wedding ring.

I fantasize about cut guys playing around with my foreskin. When I was a kid I fantasized about circumcision, but not as an adult.

I am a football coach at a small New England college. I've never considered myself to be gay, but I have always been interested in the bodies of my athletes . . . I seldom go into the showers so I don't see my men naked very often. When I watch them on the field, I sometimes strip them in my head . . . I always picture their penises as being whole. I couldn't bear to think that any of those perfect human specimens has been mutilated by circumcision.

I was circumcised in a Texas prison farm. It was punishment for trying to escape.

I fantasize about cupping my long foreskin over my girl friend's large breasts and then working myself down and finally reaching her toes. I pull it gradually over each of her toes one at a time and then, while her toe is inside my cock, she wiggles it.

When I was a kid I fantasized about foreskins out of Silly Putty for my cut little dickie.

When I am naughty my Master sits me in a corner with a dunce cap on my head and to keep me there he nails my foreskin to the chair.

I get an erection every time I see the word 'circumcision' in print.

RON BLUESTEIN

who have not been circumcised is 20% "at its most optimistic." For most of us neonatal "clippocks" (British slang; the opposite is *pillcock*), to have or have not is a moot point. When you read Berkeley's own admission that he "hated his foreskin," or read of the boy who tried to circumcise himself with an empty toilet paper roll and a razor, you realize that this book has its importance and its audience.

Berkeley "takes the foreskin out of the closet" with fact, the first and foremost being that the foreskin is not insignificant. Emotionally, many men circumcised as adolescents experienced it as a castration. Physically, the foreskin "is loaded with erotic nerve endings" whose only itch is to be stretched. There is all sorts of advice on how to raise the most satisfying foreskin, none as useful and specific as the words from this writer, who proves yet again that today's headway in sexual research has dedicated, holistic slats at its forefront:

Thanks to your *Foreskin Finder* list I have been able to continue my experimentation on about 100 natural penises during the past year, and have come to some conclusions on how to suck uncut dick. Generally, if the foreskin is tight or adheres closely to the glans and the glans is moist and dark pink, keep the foreskin forward. If the foreskin is loose . . . and the glans is somewhat dry and lighter pink, foreskin pushed all the way back . . . Fellows with tighter foreskins often have supersensitive heads and prefer not to have direct action on them . . . Fellows with loose foreskins often like direct action on the bared head.

From *Foreskin* you will learn that very tight or un retractable foreskin is a condition called phimosis, that there is a place on your penis called "the underskin bulb of Milne," and that in 1973 neonatal circumcisions earned doctors \$51 million, which seems to be more than a small cut. The numerous letters offer a unique chance to observe the human male in his nomadic wanderings in urban and forest groups in quest of genital camaraderie. Do sororities have vaginal depth awards to correspond to "the longest dick award at my fraternity house"? Are there any active ladies rooms? This epistolary grab bag from the files of the Uncircumcised Society of America (USA) joins Boyd MacDonald's *Straight to Hell* as documentation of the homoerotic and homosexual bonding through all-male societies.

Some of these correspondents are eloquent. One writes:

I think there must be a positive word for the "all there" penis rather than "uncircumcised." I still have my head and it isn't referred to as "undeprecated." My arm is not "unamputated."

We meet a lot of people in *Foreskin* who know what that positive word is: heaven. ■

To join the Uncircumcised Society of America (USA) or purchase *Foreskin* by mail order, write the address which precedes this review. *Foreskin* is also available at the Walt Whitman Bookshop.

FORESKIN

prepucing campaign" is through.

This is a criticism. Now I will cowl. I wouldn't nitpick so mercilessly if the book were \$6.95, but it's \$13.95, and at that price one expects page 113 to follow page 112, which it doesn't. The editor seems to be on a one man campaign to change "okay" to "okey," and that's okay but he shouldn't leave so many typos for the reader to correct. The funniest one identifies "Dr. Skinner" as an "imminent urologist." Well, I'm sure there's a lot more imminent than eminent ones. The pictures by Joe Tiffenbach are good as far as they go, but they will please only those who don't care if a penis has a person.

In spite of these failings, *Foreskin* is a valuable contribution for a small American minority who have been affected by being genetically different from the majority of their sex. According to Berkeley's figures, the number of American men

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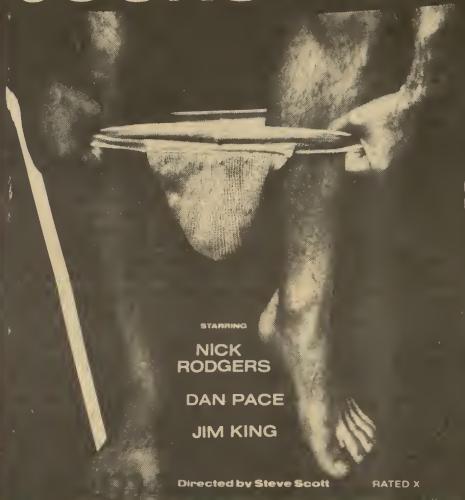
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DICK WALTERS

Tuesday, January 24, is the first Tavern Guild meeting of '84, so come to the Hob Nob and renew or join the organization . . . the meeting starts at 1 PM.

Bill Buss, former star of many New York bars, is now on the plank at Queen Mary's Pub, Wednesdays through Sundays from 10 AM 'til 6 PM . . . don't drink too much, Billy!

Bill Wright and Dave Williams of the Nothing Special have a bet to see who loses 10 lbs. first. I don't know why Dave has to lose weight, as he is great just the way he is; but Bill Wright should shed more than 10 lbs. . . . only kidding, Bill.

Daddy Joe Roland tells me that Reba Rattlesnake is writing a new book and is going to call it *Black and Deck er* . . . great, Joe. Yes, Hans is still putting up with Reba at the Cinch on Polk Street.

Come on down to Googie's Sunday and watch the Super Bowl game and partake in our buffet with lots of goodies for you to enjoy. It should be a great game, so enjoy it with friends around you.

Hope you had a nice vacation,

Lucy of the White Swallow and the Pendulum . . . you were with a hot, hot number the last time I saw you . . . keep up the good work.

Note to Gary of the White Swallow: Eric might be back to work at the QT 2 shortly if you are still interested. And also days, Tuesday through Sunday, the handsome Dan is still on the plank . . . I would love to buddy-ride with you on your new bike, Dan.

I spent a day in Russian River with Bob Tanguay and had a ball . . . the Rainbow Cattle Co. up there is a very friendly bar and they have a hunk by the name of Frank working days. Ran into (how can you help but running into her) Flo from the Men's Room here in the city . . . at Molly Brown's, of course . . . yes, Gary MacDonald is now on the plank at Molly Brown's and they serve a great hamburger . . . so the next time you go to the Russian River, drop in and try one — the hamburger, not Gary.

Vallejo's own bar is now called The Black-Eyed Pea . . . that is a catchy name for a bar.

Chuck of the Railway Ex-

press was down south for the holidays and his mother sent Wayne Friday 5 lbs. of grits . . . I can't print what Wayne told Chuck to do with the grits.

Annie . . . are you driving Freddie to drink by being on

vacation . . . for such a long time?

Golly, how time does fly . . . on the 26th of this month I was discharged from the Navy in 1942 . . . and I am so young now; right, Reba?



Feminine Overflow. "Non-establishment" queens posed hysterically after Coronation '84. A new wage in femininity? (Photo: Rink)

Women Tackle Orwell

On Tuesday, February 28, "1984: Orwell's Doomsday, or A Time for Great Expectations?" will be the topic of this Radical Women open meeting. Dinner at 6:45 p.m. (\$3 donation); meeting at 7:30 p.m. at 523-A Valencia (near 16th St.), San Francisco. For more information call 681-2414 or 864-1278.

Openings in Support Group

Genesis, an ongoing weekly support and therapy group for Gay men, announces that it has openings for new members.

Says co-founder Scott Eaton, "Men come to Genesis for a variety of reasons, including to meet and relate to Gay men in new ways; to deal with past or present relationships; to overcome life patterns, solve problems, and make decisions; to receive honest, objective feedback from others. Whatever the reason, Genesis is a place where men can be both honest and nurturing with one another as well as creatively participate in each other's lives."

Groups are conducted for two hours on Tuesday or Wednesday evening in the Haight. A fee is charged.

For more information, contact the facilitators, Adrian Tiller, MS, at 861-2385, or Scott Eaton, MA at 564-1742.

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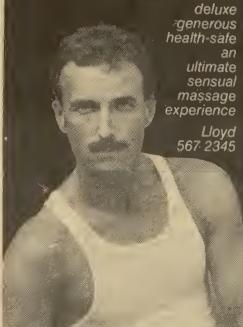
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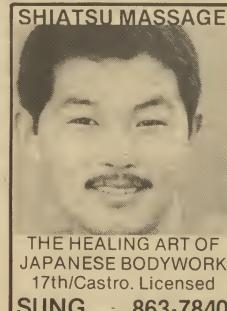
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